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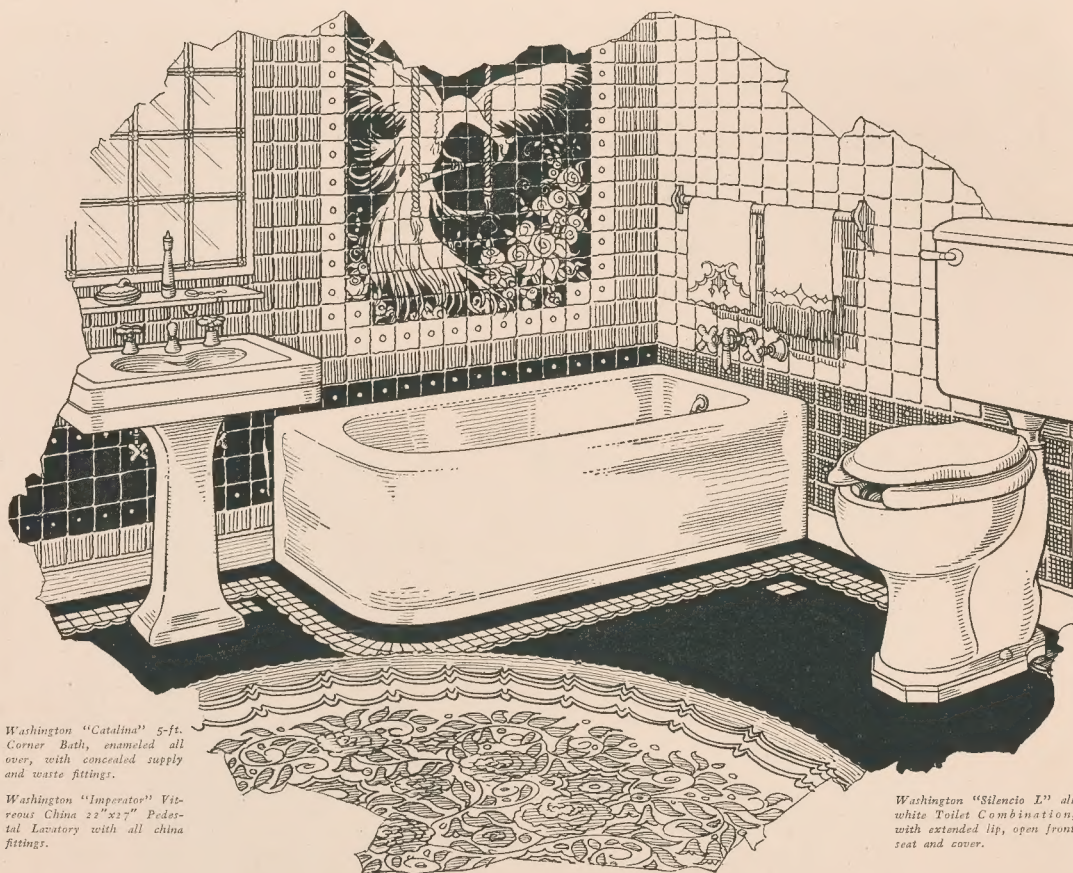
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VOLUME · XXIX · JANUARY · 1926 · NUMBER · ONE  
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VOLUME XXIX / SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES / JANUARY / 1926 / NUMBER ONE

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*An Illustrated Monthly Magazine for the Architect, Contractor and Home Builder*

HARRIS ALLEN, A. I. A., EDITOR

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# PACIFIC · COAST · ARCHITECT

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VOLUME XXIX · SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES · JANUARY, 1926 · NUMBER ONE

## THE "NEW FREEDOM" IN SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE

[BY JOHN J. DONOVAN]

*Member of the American Institute of Architects*



AFTER reviewing the illustrations of this issue it is indeed a pleasure to pay tribute to the architects whose work graces this number, for a fine and pleasing note is added to the scale of California School Architecture which is already notable by many recent achievements. It is interesting to observe the absence of severe formality and the freedom from rigidity of hard-fisted technicalities in the simplicity and ease of the compositions, and yet the fenestrations are handled with such skill as to show that the principles of modern school hygiene haven't suffered in the least. This is indeed commendable and a tribute to the intelligence and training of the authors, for they have molded pleasing forms about indisputably hard facts and rigid rules, sacrificing nothing of the principles in the doing.

A school is of necessity an institution, consequently its architecture will always be institutional in character, but the trend of effort and the spirit in accomplishment prevailing today are towards the softening of the hard lines of formalities and to make more yielding the fixed requirements necessitated by group or class instruction.

This issue shows a number of good examples blessed with touches of domestic architecture introduced here and there in the designs and compositions. And well it is so, for the purpose of the school is simply to enrich and expand the life and training of the home. Too, it recalls pleasantly a period in the history of American Education, especially that of the Dame Schools of Colonial times, privately conducted by Dames as the name implies, who taught reading and writing to the small children in their parlors and kitchens, many of whom had very little education to qualify for the responsibilities as we know of them today.

Naturally, with the growth and development of the country, this primitive, inadequate and unsatisfactory method of providing instruction for the child gave way to the communities or townships assuming the obligations of compulsory education; and consequently, institu-

tions of large groups and large classes followed. For many years, hardly more than walls, windows and roofs constituted the buildings called schools. The rooms were large in area and were crowded with pupils of all grades and ages, a "potpourri" as it were. Very little, if any, thought was given to ventilation or illumination, to say nothing of age, grades or subject matter classification, until about 1848, when the latter was first attempted in the Quincy and Bowdoin Schools of Boston, three and four story buildings of no special merit except that they were the first school buildings in this country to establish graded classes.

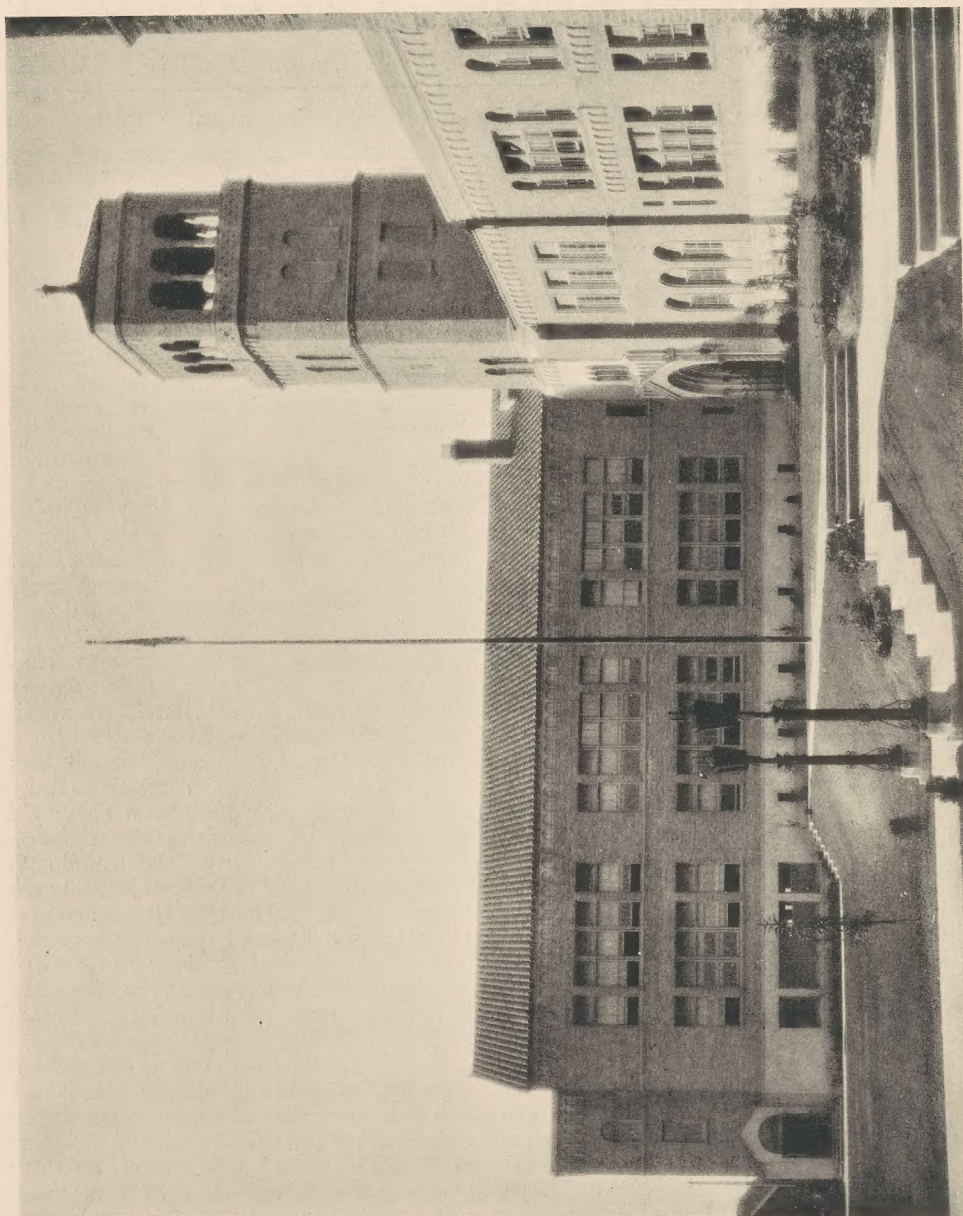
Some time about 1900 the teaching and medical professions were directing public attention to the badly lighted and wretchedly ventilated school buildings being built and existing over the land. Helpful and harmful suggestions followed fast on the heels of criticism. Hard and fast rules were adopted and with very little scientific data to substantiate the truths or disclose the fallacies of them. The pendulum of restraint swung far to the side of building schools by rules and regulations, leaving common sense, initiative, good taste, human values to the soul and mind, and good architecture to shift as it might in other fields, because the rules and regulations were more important in the minds of the authorities legally equipped to spend the money.

There is so much more to this and there are so many profitable and interesting lessons to learn and pass on to posterity that somebody should write a treatise on the Growth and Development of American School Architecture, for there are many worthy objectives yet to be attained and this can be done only by shedding light upon many of the crudities still prevalent which impede progress for spiritual and practical education. But for this brief comment it suffices to call attention to the fact that the architects have sensed the problems of hygiene and are embodying the angular lines into lovely forms, yielding delight and charm to the eye and mind.

The architects of California are indeed fortunate in living and working in a country where there is so large a sense of length and breadth to

[Concluded on page 47]





SOUTH COURT,  
BELMONT  
HIGH SCHOOL,  
LOS ANGELES,  
CALIFORNIA.  
EDGAR H. CLINE,  
ARCHITECT





ABOVE—CLOISTER, NORTH COURT; BELOW—WEST PORCH, BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES  
EDGAR H. CLINE, ARCHITECT





MAIN ENTRANCE, JOHN BURROUGHS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES. EDGAR H. CLINE, ARCHITECT





ABOVE—JOHN BURROUGHS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL; CENTER—BELVEDERE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL; BELOW—  
LE CONTE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES. EDGAR H. CLINE, ARCHITECT





LEFT — AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE, BELVEDERE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL; RIGHT — MAIN ENTRANCE, LE CONTE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES. EDGAR H. CLINE, ARCHITECT





AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE, WILTON PLACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES. EDGAR H. CLINE, ARCHITECT





THE ARCHITECT MAY SPEND MANY PRECIOUS HOURS PREPARING AND WRITING SPECIFICATIONS FOR PAINTING AND DECORATING AND THEN BE GRIEVOUSLY DISAPPOINTED IN THE FINISHED RESULT UNLESS THE MEN WHO EXECUTE THOSE SPECIFICATIONS ARE IMBUED WITH THE SYMPATHETIC SPIRIT OF THE TRUE CRAFTSMAN. A SLIGHT VARIATION FROM THE EXACT SHADE DESIRED MAY COMPLY WITH THE WRITTEN SPECIFICATIONS AND YET BE FAR FROM THE BEAUTIFUL CONCEPTION IN THE MIND OF THE ARCHITECT. WHETHER IT BE A SCHOOL SUCH AS THAT PICTURED HERE, WHETHER IT BE A MUSEUM, A SMALL HOME OR A MANSION, QUANDT CRAFTSMEN SEEK FOR AND CARRY OUT THE "UNWRITTEN" SPECIFICATION AS WELL AS THAT WHICH IS WRITTEN. THIS IS MORE THAN AN IDEAL WITH US—IT IS AN OBLIGATION AND A TRADITION FORTY YEARS OLD. AND THAT PRICELESS INGREDIENT CALLED CRAFTSMANSHIP NEED NOT BE EXPENSIVE; IN THE LONG RUN IT ACTUALLY COSTS LESS. PICTURED HERE, BELL UNIT, HUNTINGTON PARK UNION HIGH SCHOOL. TRAIN AND WILLIAMS, ARCHITECTS, LOS ANGELES.

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WEST ATHENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. A. M. EDELMAN AND A. C. ZIMMERMAN, ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS





SANTA ANITA SCHOOL OF BEAUTY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA A. C. MARTIN, ARCHITECT



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*Photographs by Mott Studio*

ABOVE—REAR ENTRANCE; BELOW—MAIN ENTRANCE, WEST ATHENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.  
A. M. EDELMAN AND A. C. ZIMMERMAN, ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS





WEST ATHENS  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL  
A. M. EDLMAN  
AND  
A. C. ZIMMERMAN,  
ASSOCIATE  
ARCHITECTS



DETAIL, PENINSULA THEATRE, BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA  
WEEKS AND DAY, ARCHITECTS

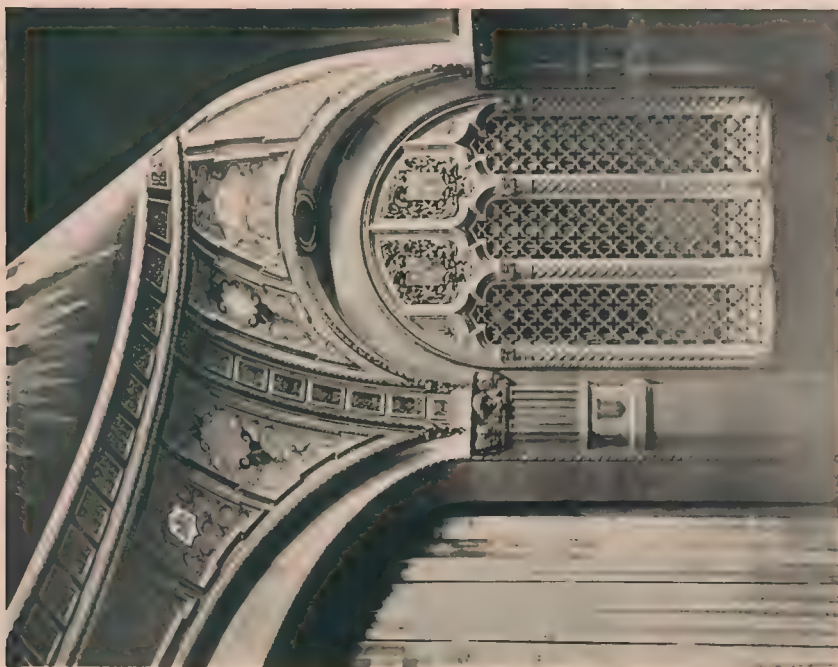
*Photo by Faxon Atherton*





PENINSULA THEATRE, BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA. WEEKS AND DAY, ARCHITECTS

Photo by Faxon Atkinson



LEFT—EXTERIOR, RIGHT—PROSCENIUM ARCH; CALIFORNIA THEATRE, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA. WEEKS AND DAY, ARCHITECTS

Photo by Faxon 4/10/1919





DETAIL OF ORGAN SCREEN, CALIFORNIA THEATRE, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA  
WEEKS AND DAY, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Faxon Atherton*



FOYER, CALIFORNIA THEATRE, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA  
WEEKS AND DAY, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Faxon Atherton*





MARQUISE, EL CAPITAN THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by The Mott Studios*



EL CAPITAN THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA. MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by The Mott Studios*





DETAIL OF OFFICE ENTRANCE, EL CAPITAN THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by The Mott Studios.*



LOBBY, EL CAPITAN THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by The Mott Studios*





BELASCO THEATRE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by The Mott Studios*



ABOVE—PROSCENIUM; BELOW—LOBBY; BELASCO THEATRE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by The Mott Studios*





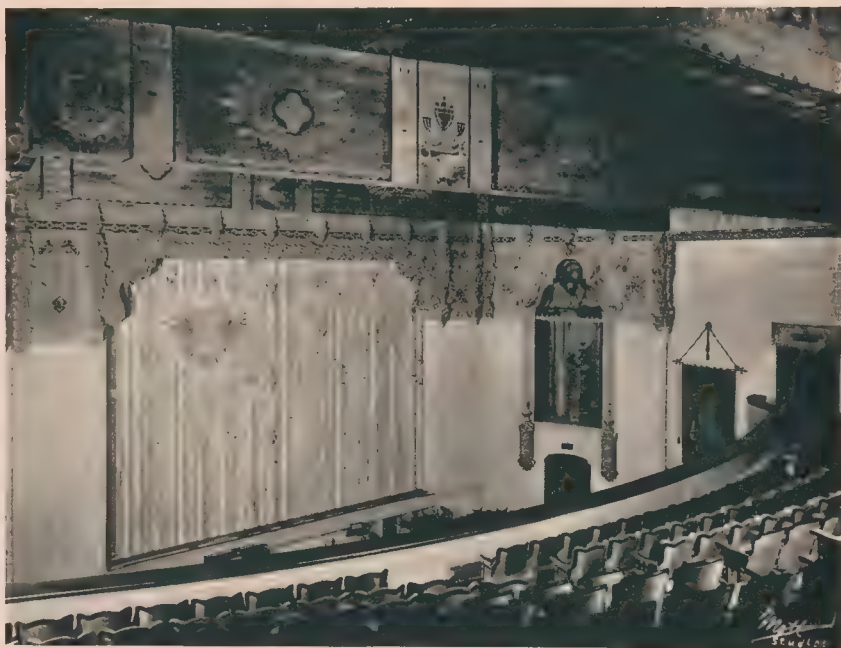
LEFT—AUDITORIUM CEILING; RIGHT—AUDITORIUM WALL; BELASCO THEATRE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS



LEFT—SMOKING ROOM; RIGHT—FOYER DETAIL; BELASCO THEATRE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by The Mort Studio*





MUSIC BOX THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA  
MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by The Mott Studios*



AUDITORIUM DETAILS, MUSIC BOX THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA. MORGAN, WALLS AND CLEMENTS, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by The Merritt Studios*



## "THE MAN ON THE STREET"—*Speaks of the Packard Building*

[ BY ZOE A. BATTU ]



IN attempting to get the reactions of the lay mind on the new Packard Building, I strove to choose people who could respond with intelligence, yet who lacked knowledge of the technical phases of architecture, and in some cases of art, generally. The opinions as set forth are spontaneous—the "snap" judgments of the typical "man on the street" as to what he likes or doesn't like about this building, which has raised such a great wave of comment within and without the profession.

Perhaps it is not entirely fair to evaluate such a work by the opinions of this indefinite person of the masses, but here in America his views can never be wholly disregarded. He may be, educationally, emotionally, culturally, unequipped to weigh values in the question at hand, prone to quick, shallow judgments, untempered even by a spirit of intellectual tolerance; yet by a paradox of the existing order, his decisions represent ultimate wisdom. He is the court of final appeal for the leaders of great causes and the prevalent assumption is that his judgments are divinely right. Under these conditions, can we do less than give him voice in attempting to arrive at a just estimate of this Packard Building?

The parties to the experiment included a New York business man, the sales manager for a soda fountain and candy manufacturers' supply house, an engineer in the construction department of the telephone company, a literary magazine editor, a group of housewives, a student and teacher of psychological and philosophical studies, a commercial artist.

The New York business man voted the structure as typical of San Francisco, but questioned the wisdom of what he termed the "futuristic" in business buildings. He is a very successful business man, dealing in costly luxuries, but would hesitate to put up a building so pretentiously unique as this one for fear his customers' minds would be concentrated upon the architecture and decorations, rather than upon the merchandise. He would have his business home well and artistically built, with a judicious use of color and variety, but less obtrusive and spectacular than the Packard Building.

In the opinion of the soda fountain salesman the building is without an equal in the city for its advertising value.

The telephone company engineer, after examining the structure from several points of the compass and at night under the play of its changing lights, decided that there must be

something wrong with anyone who said that there is anything wrong with Maybeck's work.

The editor of the literary magazine gave it as her opinion that the building is expressive and suggestive of the machine it houses. The Packard is an aristocrat among cars; the building is a fitting home for such a car. This motive and its expression in this instance she compared to present-day methods employed in advertising fine perfumes, jewelry, costly fabrics, etc., whereby color and well-executed effects in type and composition subtly convey a sense of the beauty, value and distinctiveness of the product.

The group of housewives thought that as a business building it was all very well. However, to attempt to duplicate the pretentious spirit in the average home would, in the opinion of these women, render the home not a place to be lived in and with, but something merely to be looked at.

In the opinion of the student and teacher of psychological subjects, such structures represent an economic waste. They are the result of an economic order marked by competition so keen that we are driven to oversell and to place as much or more emphasis on things outside of the product as upon the inherent values of the merchandise itself. This woman was careful to add that she does not discount the importance of beauty and harmony in the material and abstract scheme of things, but she was emphatic in the point that it is more fitting to the spirit of business to keep its beauty simple and shorn of the unnecessarily ornate.

The commercial artist could not see any justification for the ensemble or its details from an artistic or practical standpoint. If, indeed, it has advertising value, it secures that value by violation, rather than original interpretation, of practically sound advertising art principles. The thing in this woman's opinion is "stagey"—a confused clamor for attention. The outside pillars have no structural reason for being. They hold up nothing; they are no integral part of the walls and upper stories. They are just put there because they are pink.

And so it goes. Public opinion on the merits of the building is clearly divided. Where one man accepts it, the next rejects it, and acceptances tend to be tempered by reservations. The gist of this situation is perhaps best expressed by Maybeck himself in the radio speech he delivered at the formal opening of the structure. To repeat him in part: "Only in San Francisco does this building happen, and only at this hour—it may be good art; it may be bad. \* \* \* The one thing



"PACKARD" BUILDING FOR EARLE C. ANTHONY, INC., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
BERNARD MAYBECK, ARCHITECT; AHNDEN AND POWERS, ASSOCIATED

Photo by G. K. M. 1914



this building does reflect to me is earnestness, energy, hard work, and it seems to me that everyone from the bottom up worked with a sense of doing something good."

For myself, and speaking as I must as a layman, I am very certain that the building could happen in no other place than California, where verily the cultures and architectures of all the races of the earth seem to find climatic and geographical environments favorable to the evolution of fresh expressions and vigor, and at a time when we are peculiarly sensitive to the widely varied heritage that is ours and facile in giving the many, many elements new adaptations. When I first looked upon the building, I was confused by the complexity of sources from which it springs and the infinite variety of its materials. There seemed to be no logical connection between masses and details. But after a time this confusion passed away, much in the same fashion that misunderstanding of a new, strange opera passes away. I perceived unity of symbolism in the building, as a building. As such it is variously and ideally suggestive of many lands, architectures, inspirations, of the Orient, Occident, Asia, Africa. It is richly visionary.

But in the matter of the structure's symbolism in relation to its purpose, I am beset with doubts. The Packard car is an aristocrat of the machine age. It is steel and little else, made alive, sensitive, responsive, muscular. It is costly, sumptuous, luxurious, but what a marvel it is of the art of achieving these qualities by confining structural and ornamental elements to bare essentials!

So it seems to me that between the building, the business and product it houses there is a subtle incongruity and discrepancy—an opportunity overlooked to create something equal in impressiveness, attention value and beauty, yet giving more exact expression to the spirit and motive that has evolved this vital thing of steel.

However, let that point pass as it may. The creator has, without question, labored in sincerity, though he may have disregarded this or that precedent. His sincerity and courage are genuinely virile and it is not impossible that another generation of builders will carry forth the symbolism and spirit expressed in this work to a fine and harmonious perfection. Such things have happened before.

[Editorial Note:—Professional opinions as to the merits of the Packard Building vary as much or more than those of laymen. The liberties which have been taken with the use of motifs, materials and colors are questioned by purists. Disregarding these as matters of detail, no one can question the fundamental architectural qualities of mass and line, of proportion and balance, or the effect of monumental nobility which has been conceived.]

\* \* \*

#### TALK BY BERNARD R. MAYBECK, BROADCASTED FROM THE PACKARD BUILDING ON ITS OPENING NIGHT

"You and I are molded by the land, the trees, the sky and all that surrounds us—the streets, the houses and men. Our hearts are shaped by the plaster walls that cover us and we reflect plaster-wall ideals, and that by repetition to the nth power.

"When I make a vase, a cup or a saucer they will be the exact expression of what I am. This vase or cup or saucer will tell you who and what I am whenever they appear before your sight.

"The time may come when we shall bring man-made things to establish facts in history, to round it out, just as it is being done in the courts to find out the truth for the jury.

"A Russian philosopher, Ouspensky, like the American Indian, thinks that the things men make are alive. He says that when he passes the walls of the Kremlin Prison he feels that the stones themselves reflect the meaning of why they are there. Perhaps from this same point of view the Notre Dame of Paris tells the story that Victor

Hugo expressed in thought. When the Cathedral of Notre Dame covers you, you seem to sense the presence of men who lived long ago. You may sense the good that they did; their errors were buried with their bones. That cathedral is a mirror of that sky, those trees, those swamps, the hearts of those men who lived in that exact geographic location, and at that exact hour, and at nowhere else and at no other time.

"This building, The Packard, in which I stand as I give voice to my thoughts, is again the repetition of the forces that built cathedrals, but from a different motive. Only in San Francisco does this building happen, and only at this hour—it may be good art, it may be bad—but such as it is, it is the outcome of 'the man who inspired



BERNARD R. MAYBECK

it' and had the courage to bring it into being, aided by many men. The one thing this building does reflect to me is earnestness, energy and hard work; and it seems to me that every one from the bottom up worked with a sense of doing something good. Every sensitive heart that can read will feel this spirit of the men who built the place; and I believe those who come from the snow countries will feel that it is an expression of the 'Spirit of San Francisco,' and that it could not happen in Boston. The people of that snow country have another spirit which would take on a different form. All this is another way of speaking of cooperation. The measure of the beauty of a city is the measure of the cooperation of its citizens." Note: "The man who inspired it" is Earle C. Anthony.

\* \* \*

#### WET BRICK BEFORE, NOT AFTER, LAYING

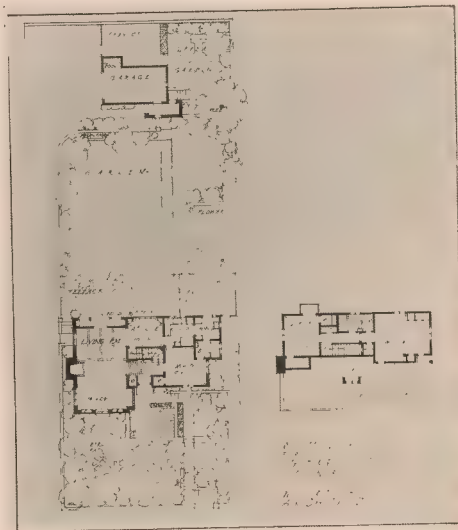
The wetting of brickwork for a period after laying, as often is done in concrete construction, does not add to the strength of the brickwork, according to information given out by the Common Brick Industry as a result of a series of tests conducted by the United States Bureau of Standards at Washington. Tests have proven there is no decided increase in the strength of wetted walls over those of the same type of construction which were unsprinkled. The industry, therefore, states that this unnecessary expense and trouble may safely be eliminated.



SALES ROOM, "PACKARD" BUILDING FOR EARLE C. ANTHONY, INC., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
BERNARD MAYBECK, ARCHITECT; AHNDEN AND POWERS, ASSOCIATED

*Photos by Gabriel Moulin*





RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. W. L. RISLEY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
W. L. RISLEY, ARCHITECT



RESIDENCE OF MR. WALTER A. GREEN, LANKERSHIM, CALIFORNIA  
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## SEATS FOR THE MIGHTY AND THE MASSES

[BY M. G. PERRIN]

*Seating Engineer, C. F. Weber & Co.*

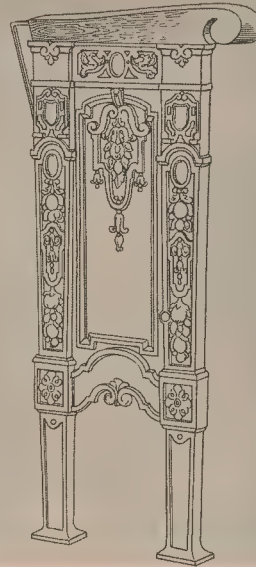


THE general public is prone to take its seats at the theatre, opera and lecture hall, its church pews, altar embellishments and other material forms of its spiritual faith, largely as a matter of course. Its notice of such equipment and comment thereon is apt to be confined to a lack of comfort or some other glaring fault. But the architect planning a building for public gatherings must consider a multitude of factors in providing seating facilities that are at once comfortable, enduring, within the allotted cost for them, and in keeping with the spirit and purposes of the structure.

His problem is often far from being simple, but modern production methods and a rich tradition of history unite to enable him to provide seating of superlative artistry and excellence at a reasonable cost. Historically the sources and inspirations that lend themselves to the design of seating units for public gathering places are as rich and varied as architecture itself. Throughout the lands of the earth and the ages, wherein man has built his great temples of worship or amusement, he has invariably embodied in the seating units finely wrought designs, symbolically and artistically in harmony with the spirit of the whole.

Indeed, we may take a single carved pew from any of the world-famous or lesser known cathedrals of the Old World and from its general design and embellishments piece together a creditable knowledge of the building,

better-known and leading houses within the seat-making industry are fully alive to the responsibility this tradition and history impose upon them. The industry is among the foremost of great American enterprises, with a full



its purpose and the innermost thoughts of the people who brought it into being. We may take a chair from one of the opera houses of Paris, Rome, Berlin, London, New York, and truly the splendor of the opera, the glamor of the drama have become part and parcel of the materials of which it is made.

Fortunately for this age, its builders and buildings, the

realization of the existing opportunity to create products artistically worthy of an exalted past and to cooperate with today's architects in giving lasting expression to some of the finer creative craftsmanship of the modern age. Thus, generally speaking, high standards of workmanship and quality prevail in this industry of seat making.

Mechanical features of chairs with movable seats have been simplified to the point of being entirely trouble-proof. The chairs are built for long life and to withstand all the careless usage that a thoughtless public gives them. The woods used in chairs, pews and other ecclesiastical cabinet work are selected for their soundness and beauty of grain; carefully cured, dried and processed to best withstand the climatic conditions in the location where the products will be installed. Fabrics are woven largely to specification with the object of rendering them tear-proof and well-nigh wear-proof.

Within this industry there has been assembled possibly the largest and most expert group of wood workers, carvers and metal workers to be found in America today. The leaders in wood-carving work come from a score of lands in which the art has attained outstanding perfection. These men are artists in their medium and skilled in creating designs of their own or executing those furnished by the architect in a manner that reveals the inherent beauty of the wood grain and makes of these smaller units in the architectural scheme things of rare beauty and symbolical interest.

Indicative of the singular excellence which seat making has attained in America is the seating of the Temple Emanu-El, San Francisco. This job has been rated in the industry and the architectural profession as one of the

[Continued on page 59]



# Tudor Shingle Tile



*Lang Realty Co.'s Model Home, Forest Hill, San Francisco*

*Harold G. Stoner, Architect*

THE FULL CHARM of the Tudor Shingle Tile developed by Gladding, McBean & Co. is revealed here, in fine harmony with stone walls. The full range of kiln-run colors was employed, making a roof of exceptional attractiveness.

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# INTERIOR DECORATING

## DEVELOPING DECORATIVE ASPECTS IN HEATING

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]



ALL THE PROBLEMS which beset the architect, that of the artistic disposal of heat registers and radiators is by all odds the most stubborn and defiant of a thoroughly satisfactory solution. Radiators may be set in wall recesses; registers may be set flush with the walls and radiator screens can be had in any number of materials, beautiful designs and effects, but somehow there always lingers, in the most skillful attempt at concealment, a sense of the makeshift. It seems quite impossible to entirely banish a certain mechanical note that such external apparatus injects into the otherwise harmoniously artistic chambers of the home, business house or public gathering place.

But whatever may be the objectional features of heating systems from the artistic viewpoint, they are nothing that can be done away with. Satisfactory heating is indispensable to comfort and full efficiency in every type of building. The situation from an artistic and decorative standpoint, therefore, is distinctly one of choosing the lesser of two evils and studying facilities at hand with a view to making the best of them.

Before dealing with the decorative possibilities of heating systems, it is, of course, understood that mechanical and engineering factors bearing on the case have been fully considered and provided for. No matter what decorative masterpiece the architect may evolve in the way of registers and radiators, the feat will win him little gratitude from a client whose home or business place is inadequately heated because unseen mechanism has been sacrificed or wrongly handled to provide impressive exterior arrangements.



It was, perhaps the importance of these strictly utilitarian factors of heating that made progress slow in evolving its artistic side. Heat was heat and could not be left out of building plans, and there was a vast number of mechanical and scientific problems to be solved by manu-

facturers of heating systems in order to perfect their products. Everyone was so concerned with these angles that artistry was not thought of. But now that the heating system industry, as a whole, has mechanically perfected its products, it has time to concern itself with their artistic possibilities.



Thus, in recent years, we see the registers and radiators of the several types of heating plants acquiring some semblance of grace and good design. Steam radiators, whether fired from a central basement plant or from a self-contained gas or electrical unit, are no longer the ungainly objects of former years. Their loops are slenderized and harsh contours are toned down.

Hot-air registers are made in period designs and various colors and finishes, so that they blend very well with the style and color scheme of the rooms into which they are put. In fact, this type of heating is perhaps the most flexible available from the standpoint of register treatment, for while the wall openings, in the interest of practicality, may have to be rather large, registers can be specially designed so that the effect is still pleasing and the unity of the room is not objectionally broken. In homes, especially, this is an important consideration. The evil of soiled walls in this type of plant is always more or less present. However, in the Pacific Coast territory, where hot-air heating systems are in extensive use, this objection rarely assumes abnormal proportions, because it is seldom necessary to burn any kind of fuel at high temperatures over prolonged periods.

If the client is a stickler for cleanliness, electric heat will fill all his demands in this direction, since it ejects no gases, fumes or dust into the air and production of heat is independent of atmospheric conditions. Electrical heaters of both the portable and wall type show growing traces toward physical attractiveness and harmony with their surroundings.

For this type of heating there has also been developed a system of automatic thermostatic control, which is

[Concluded on page 61]





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# EDITORIAL

## Principles of Practice

AT THE last Convention of the American Institute of Architects, held in Washington, May, 1927, a revised and briefer Code of Ethics was adopted, has been printed and mailed to all members, and is now binding upon them.

That these Principles of Professional Practice should apply to the conduct of all architects, whether A. I. A. members or not, is clear to anyone, at first reading. As this document states, it would be difficult and voluminous, if not impossible, to frame a set of rules which would cover definitely all duties and relations of the architect. However, the Nine Points to which this Code has been boiled down are broad enough to guide under almost any conditions or circumstances.

A preliminary paragraph states the basic principles of the profession so clearly that it should be quoted and repeated as widely as possible:

"The profession of architecture calls for men of the highest integrity, business capacity and artistic ability. The architect is entrusted with financial undertakings in which his honesty of purpose must be above suspicion; he acts as professional adviser to his client and his advice must be absolutely disinterested; he is charged with the exercise of judicial functions as between client and contractors and must act with entire impartiality; he has moral responsibilities to his professional associates and subordinates; finally, he is engaged in a profession which carries with it grave responsibility to the public. These duties and responsibilities cannot be properly discharged unless his motives, conduct, and ability are such as to command respect and confidence."

In the light of previous comment in these columns, it is interesting to note that the new Code definitely urges greater publicity: "An architect will not advertise for the purpose of self-laudatory publicity, but publicity of the standards, aims and progress of the profession is to be commended."

## Wishing Many Happy Returns

OUR HEARTY congratulations to the *Architect and Engineer*, which celebrated its twenty-second birthday by change, in the April number, to a larger size page and an attractive cover, thus joining the ranks of what may be called standard-sized magazines.

The choice of illustrations for this and subsequent issues has been happy. Buildings which received Honor Awards from the Northern and Southern California Chapters, A. I. A., have

been featured, and maintain the high standard of merit to be expected. A special "House Number" gave examples of domestic architecture from various parts of California, all evidently chosen by a judge of good design and good taste. Text pages are set with large, well-spaced type, easy to read. It does not need the eye of an expert to appreciate the tremendous improvement in appearance and make-up; and we are sure that the *Architect and Engineer*, which has always specialized in giving useful information to and about the building industry, will be even more valuable to its readers in the new form.

\* \* \*

## BARCELONA PORT COMPETITION

In a report just furnished the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce by American Consul-General Nathaniel B. Stewart at Barcelona, Spain, he advises that he has received a communication from the Consortium of Warehousing and Free Port of Barcelona, stating that it is proposed to construct in Barcelona a model free port and that to aid in carrying out this purpose it is opening an international competition of preliminary plans and projects in which the technical skill of the entire world is invited to compete. The competition will be open to all competent persons whatever their residence or nationalities. Plans may be drawn in Spanish, French, English, Italian, German or Portuguese. The period for their presentation ends on December 9, 1927, at 12 p.m. A prize of 100,000 pesetas and another of 25,000 pesetas will be awarded to those offering the plans chosen.

Complete details of the terms of the competition, together with all other necessary information, are on file in the office of Leonard B. Gary, district manager of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 310 Customhouse, San Francisco.

\* \* \*

## RESIDENTIAL COST INCREASES IN PAST TWELVE YEARS

Figures recently published by an investment company on the cost of residential building for the Los Angeles district show a gradual increase every year from 1915 to 1926.

On the basis of cost per square foot for residential building the figures are as follows:

Year	Per sq. ft.
1915 . . . . .	\$1.82
1916 . . . . .	2.20
1917 . . . . .	2.33
1918 . . . . .	2.90
1919 . . . . .	3.48
1920 . . . . .	4.09
1921 . . . . .	4.26
1922 . . . . .	4.31
1923 . . . . .	4.43
1924 . . . . .	4.85
1925 . . . . .	4.94
1926 . . . . .	5.10

\* \* \*

Luther Fentress, architect, has removed his studio and residence to San Marino, California.



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<i>Directors:</i> . . . . .	HARRY LANGLEY	IRA H. SPRINGER	ARTHUR D. JANSSEN



THE S. F. A. C. has once more furnished winners for the Harvard Annual Scholarship. The lucky men this year were none other than Rome Blas, also last year's winner, and Theo. Vierra, the pride of the Club. The boys unite in extending their heartiest congratulations to both Rome and Teddy, with the hope that they both enjoy to the fullest the benefits to which their earnest efforts entitle them.

The Club picnic held May 22 at Marshall Park was voted a huge success by all who attended. Games, dancing and feasting helped to make the occasion a happy one.

The June meeting was well attended and was featured by moving pictures in conjunction with a lecture on the manufacture and uses of Celotex.

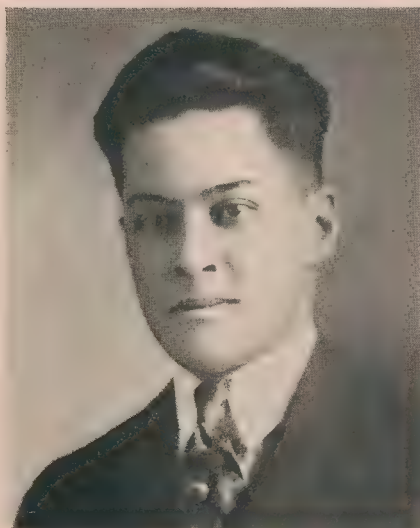
Vacancies made by the retiring treasurer and directors were recommended to be filled by Ed Counter for treasurer and the Nominating Committee announces Jack Sly, Ira Springer and J. Devitt will do battle for the directorship.

Future Club events of importance will be an overnight party at Ira Springer's palatial summer home-on-the-Napa, for members only. June 24th and 25th are the dates and boating, swimming and fishing will be the attractions. Several of the boys will participate in the boating, swimming and fishing; the majority, however, are coming for the etc.

At some time in the near future (date unsettled) a Club trip will be made to the Columbia Steel Corporation's plant at Pittsburg. Transportation and eats provided. An inspection of the plant will disclose every phase of fabrication from the raw material to the finished product, in the manufacture of steel plates, nails, etc.

Tendencies toward Eastern migration as evidenced by the Atelier boys this last year has led the mossier to consider establishing our S. F. A. C. Atelier in the East with a branch here at the Club. The list of "Atelier Rats" who have left or intend leaving the Club this year in-

cludes: O. Bullock, F. Kruger, R. Blas, H. Driver, R. Tranelletti, J. Dinwiddee, J. McGilvray, O. Hooker, C. Trudell, H. Anderson, Ted Vierra, Bob Williams and Ralph Kerr.



Theo. Vierra

Favorable reports are received from the South, where Stanton Willard (Tubby) is convalescing from an operation for appendicitis.

TRUDY.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

### NEXT MEETING

Due to the vacation period, the next regular meeting of the Northern California Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, will not be held until September 20, 1927. Notice of this meeting will be sent to the members.

\* \* \*

Glass skyscrapers with a framework of steel may become the latest fashion in architecture, catching the sun like dazzling prisms and permitting an open view of thousands of office workers. Architects have been flocking to the exhibition of Granovsky, the first Russian constructionist to visit America, who has included the model of a glass skyscraper among his strange cubistic constructions. The discovery of vitrified glass, which is as sturdy as steel, has made these buildings possible.

### BRICK MEET IN WASHINGTON

Manufacturers of common brick will hold their next annual convention in Washington, D. C., in February, 1928. Among other features being arranged for the delegates to the convention the Common Brick Manufacturers Association of America advises that a visit will be made to the United States Bureau of Standards, where may be witnessed tests of common brick in the making.

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As our files are nearly exhausted on the above two numbers of Pacific Coast Architect we will gladly pay for copies returned to Business Office, 703 Market Street, San Francisco.

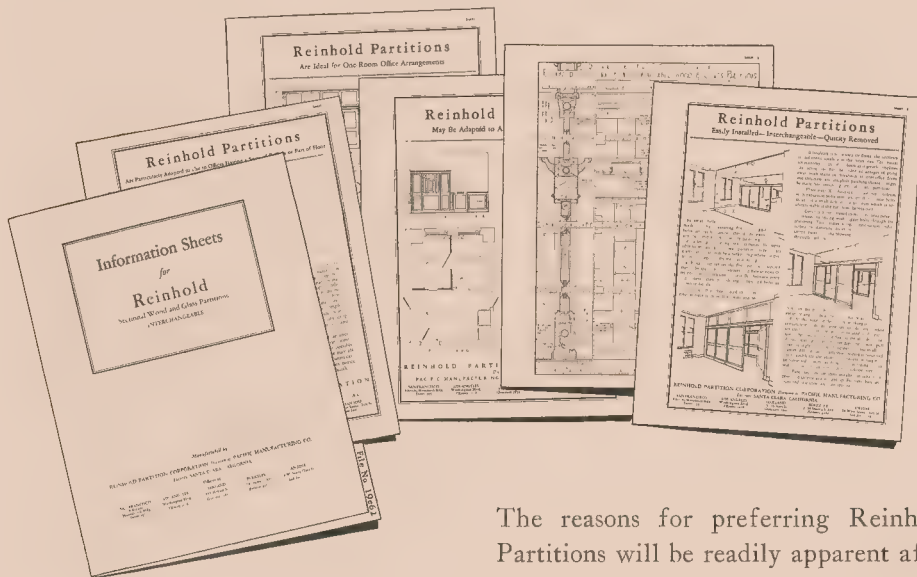


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## LOS ANGELES ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

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 J. RAYMOND WYATT . . . . . *Secretary*

The mid-June meeting of the Los Angeles Architectural Club was given over to discussion of various professional problems. Notable among the several talks was one by Myron Hunt, who spoke on "Suggestions for the Young Architect." Chas. H. Cheney, William Lee Woollett and Chas. Kyson were other speakers, who discussed several pertinent professional issues. Kyson has been most active in the work of bringing the architect to a realization of his own worth and of his profession in general, and this organization is cooperating with Kyson in formulating a program whereby practical steps may be taken in the attainment of this desirable end.

June 30 was marked by an interesting meeting, the entertainment of which was given through the courtesy of A. J. Bayer & Company.

\* \* \*

## WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER A. I. A.

*Headquarters, Seattle, Wash.*

HARLAN THOMAS . . . . . *President*  
 SHERWOOD F. FOX . . . . . *First Vice-President*  
 PAUL D. RICHARDSON . . . . . *Secretary*

May and June meetings of the Washington Chapter of the A. I. A. saw the transaction of several constructive pieces of business. October has been definitely set aside for the holding of an architectural exhibit in the quarters of the Seattle Fine Arts Society, and a budget for financing the exhibition is under consideration by the committee in charge of the project.

A report covering the work of the Department of Architecture at the University of Washington was presented with particular reference to a scholarship for the purpose of sending a student to the Architectural School at Fontainebleau. It was voted that the Chapter make a contribution of \$100 to this fund.

The functions of the City Building Department as set forth in the Seattle city charter were reported upon, and it was voted that a committee be appointed to see what steps might be taken to improve certain practices of the Building Department in the matter of plans for public buildings.

\* \* \*

## SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS

*San Francisco Bay Region  
 Offices, 952 Pacific Building*

GEORGE E. TONNEY . . . . . *President*  
 JOHN WALLACE . . . . . *Vice-President*  
 ALBERT J. CAPRON . . . . . *Secretary*

Monthly meetings, second Tuesday evening of every month, Blue Room, Palace Hotel.

The final meeting and banquet of the Society of Engineers before their summer adjournment took place at the Palace Hotel, Tuesday evening, June 14. The National Steel Tube Company provided the principal entertainment of the occasion, through its showing of a film covering the manufacture and use of its products in various industrial and commercial plants and buildings, engineering projects, etc. The Society of Engineers will not reconvene until the second Tuesday in September, which will mark the opening of its fall and winter programs and activities.

## ENGINEERS' EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The Engineering Societies Employment Service, whose Western headquarters are at 57 Post street, San Francisco, and in charge of Newton D. Cook, announces that its offices are in a position to fill permanent or temporary positions in architectural organizations where an engineer's services may be required, or engineering offices who may require the services of an architect or architectural draughtsman.

This employment service, which was inaugurated some eighteen months ago, is cooperative and the organization is composed of The American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Engineers Club of San Francisco, American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, American Institute of Electrical Engineers, California Section of American Chemical Society and the Western Society of Engineers. Offices are also maintained in Chicago and New York. The facilities are thus nation wide and the societies comprising the organization take in every possible branch of the engineering profession. Applicants for positions are carefully classified as to education, experience, past records, age and general qualifications. There is no charge to the employer for availing himself of the services of this bureau.

\* \* \*

Scholarships in the Harvard School of Architecture, as recently announced for the year 1927-28, reveal two young San Franciscans as capturing first and second places in the competitive awards, which are national in their scope. The winners are Theodore Vierra, first place, and Romello Blas, second. Blas, with Orrin Bullock, also of San Francisco, won the same scholarship last year.

Vierra comes originally from Hawaii and obtained his architectural experience in the offices of Bakewell & Brown. He will remain in San Francisco during the summer months, going East in September to enroll for the fall college semester.

Blas, Vierra and Bullock are members of the San Francisco Architectural Club, and Vierra is the seventh member of the organization to win the Harvard Scholarship, which is rated among the profession as one of the highest of its kind and is an honor greatly coveted by young architects.

\* \* \*

## CONSTRUCTION BOARDS REORGANIZED

A cabinet consisting of the heads of nine State departments will advise Governor Young on all subjects of government. Two of these departments are of particular interest to the building fraternity. In fact, the whole new plan of government is of general interest to all.

A new department of public works consolidates the divisions of engineering, irrigation, water rights, architecture, highways. A State highway commission will have five non-salaried members.

A new State department of industrial relations consolidates the divisions of industrial accident, housing and sanitation, State employment agency, labor statistics, law enforcement and industrial welfare.

This does away with a number of different State commissions that have functioned separately heretofore, but in most cases the commissions still remain a part of the State government, their duties co-ordinated in one or another of the new departments.

The Governor's plan of reorganization contemplates a new department to be known as the Department of Professional Standards. In this latter division of government will come the State Board of Architecture, with all other boards that have to do with examining, registering and licensing professions. It will be two years before this new division of government, however, is finally created.



# THE INSPECTOR

TITLE REGISTERED IN UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

COMBINED WITH PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT AND EDITED BY MARK C. COHN

VOLUME THREE

[ SERIAL ISSUE OF THE INSPECTOR ]

NUMBER SEVEN

## ANOTHER UNIFORM BUILDING CODE

Recent announcement that the National Building Officials' Conference will write a recommended building code to standardize fundamentals of construction adds another to the long list of those engaged in code making and some that are only code tinkering.

The Hoover Uniform Building Code Committee, headquartered in Washington, D. C., has been working on a code for about six years. How many others are doing the same thing the country over, no one seems to know.

On the Pacific Coast there are at least three and probably four different movements for writing so-called uniform building codes. Nearly every city, too, is either amending or writing building codes without relation to any of the code movements. Plumbers, electricians, plasterers, roofers and masons in different cities are hard at work advocating codes to regulate their particular line of work and to license trades and building contractors.

Funny, but no two codes are alike. All are termed uniform. Wonder what the end will be? Probably survival of the fittest financially unless the building industry as a whole gets fed up and then, bingo! to them all.

It is commendable that the architectural profession has safely steered clear of all these movements. And nearly every group of manufacturers of building materials, in self-defense, perhaps, have entered the code-making field.

\* \* \*

## LOS ANGELES PLASTER CODE

More voluminous than codes in other cities for like purposes, an amended ordinance in Los Angeles, effective this month, comprehensively regulates plastering, lathing, exterior stucco and all materials allowed for these purposes. Yet this ordinance does not license or bond plasterers as is done in other cities. Apparently in Los Angeles the predominant thought is that the real test of regulation and qualifications to do lathing and plastering is determined on the job by thorough inspection rather than by fixing arbitrary qualifications for the men who shall be permitted to work.

More plasterers are employed in Los Angeles than in any other American city with the possible exception of New York, it is asserted, and some do not even concede that New York employs more plasterers the year around. It therefore follows that the new ordinance in Los Angeles will attract attention the country over, and its results will be watched with interest.

\* \* \*

## VENTURA SEEKS TO LICENSE BUILDERS

All building contractors will be licensed in Ventura if an ordinance now being considered is approved by the city council. A committee of the local Builders' Exchange is reported to be urging the passage of the proposed ordinance to protect builders and property owners. The ordinance if passed in its reported form would also license and bond plasterers, masons, carpenters, plumbers and electricians.

## SANTA BARBARA TO AMEND CODE

A Santa Barbara newspaper says: "Revisions of the city building ordinance along lines tending to render the erection of new homes and remodeling of business blocks less of a financial burden and at the same time make for stronger construction will be taken up with Mayor-elect T. R. Finley and members of the new city council shortly after their inauguration.

"L. L. Pope, city building inspector, has been asked to prepare suggestions for amending the building code, many chapters of which are said to be ambiguous and to contain typographical errors in addition to clumsy grammatical construction which lends itself easily to conflicting double interpretations."

The above quotation is rather disconcerting, because it will be remembered that only a short time ago Santa Barbara enacted an entirely new building code. At that time it was heralded as a model for other cities to follow. Much ado was made and a lot of publicity given to the assertion the new code was expertly written. Even then, however, the city attorney was quoted publicly as having said the ordinance was written to favor certain building materials.

It must also be remembered Santa Barbara is not a big city, and if it finds its own expertly written code burdensome, ambiguous, with clumsy grammatical construction which lends itself to conflicting double interpretations, other cities might well practice caveat emptor before buying some of the so-called expert codes.

\* \* \*

## PLUMBING CODE BEFORE L. A. COUNCIL

An ordinance to regulate installation of sanitary plumbing and gas piping and fix qualifications for master and journeymen plumbers has finally reached the city council of Los Angeles. It is reported the measure has had long study and that much work has been devoted to writing an ordinance designed to coordinate requirements now scattered through several different enactments.

Many new features first incorporated in the proposed ordinance which brought about crystallized opposition are reported to have been successfully ironed out during the past few months.

\* \* \*

## AGITATION FOR S. F. PLASTER CODE

Plasterers in San Francisco, it is reported, have revived agitation for a plastering ordinance, which has suffered a hectic time for the past two years. The original draft of proposed ordinance not only aimed to regulate lathing and plastering and plaster ornamentations but also provided for licensing plasterers and required that plasterers post a bond.

Architects, home builders, painters and other interests opposed passage of the proposed plastering ordinance, which is now somewhere in the archives of the Building Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

## THE INSPECTOR

### TRAINING COURSES FOR INSPECTORS

[[ BY MARK C. COHN ]]

*Expert Consultant on Housing and Building Regulations*

(This is the twenty-fifth of a series of articles on building codes.)



THE average inspector of building cannot very well be expected to know all about structural engineering and the mechanics of mathematics, possess practical experience in masonry, installation of sanitary plumbing, electrical wiring, carpentry, understand the science of ventilation, technique and theory of reinforced concrete design and engineering, structural steel work, plastering, and be versed in scientific deductions adduced from the study of chemistry and laboratory work.

Experience, too, proves it is a difficult job even to keep track of, let alone understand, innumerable requirements for building set out in several different ordinances, State laws, zoning regulations, underwriters' rules and have a working knowledge of similar requisite information. In many respects no two building jobs are alike. And no two building jobs but differ in the problems encountered. Still worse, ordinances on building overlap and frequently are chaotically confusing.

#### INSPECTORS ARE SINCERE

The average man employed to perform municipal inspection work on building construction, however, is conceded to be sincere, accepts his duties seriously and functions to the best of his knowledge, ability and experience. And this type of inspector is usually eager to add to his storehouse of knowledge in order the better to undertake and carry on this important work.

And it is possible for all inspectors by proper schooling and intensive study and training to reach a uniform understanding of numerous requirements set out in various building ordinances in order that rulings of different inspectors shall be more nearly alike. It is also possible for inspectors under proper tutorship to learn the underlying fundamentals of construction, theory and practice of engineering and design, mechanics of mathematics and other building science which will better enable them to discharge the duty of practical and intelligent inspection.

In turn, schooled inspectors would educate builders, many of whom apparently are or pretend to be ignorant of building code requirements and the reasons therefor. Unfortunately, there are inspectors who if asked why and what this or that requirement in an ordinance is for would answer: "Well, it's the law, that's all I know, and you must comply with whatever the law says." Usually that is about all that type of inspector does know. And he is the type of uninformed person who casts reflection on all inspectors as a class.

#### NOT ALL FOOLISHNESS

Everything contained in building ordinances is not foolish. Much is, however, made to appear foolish when the enforcing official apparently is unable and unwilling to explain intelligently what it is all about and why it is needed, and, consequently, answers foolishly. On the other hand, even a brief intelligent explanation would turn away wrath and resentment so frequently reflected by those with whom inspectors come in contact.

The suggestion for training courses or school for inspectors of building is, therefore, not amiss. The best

place to begin the establishment of schools is in every building department. Here even one hour every week devoted to intensive study of building regulations, the underlying reasons for requirements set out in building ordinances, how such regulations tend to safeguard life and property, their value to builders, architects, property owners and manufacturers of building materials could not more profitably be spent. Here at least once each week could be invited prominent engineers, architects, practical mechanics, manufacturers of building materials, who would in friendly spirit of cooperation explain and reveal to inspectors whatever information they are eager to learn.

Once a year, perhaps oftener, district or State institutes could be held where an open forum for exchange of ideas would achieve highly unexpected, interesting and profitable results.

#### MUNICIPAL CLASS WORK

Courses of study are now established in and for many professions, vocations, trades and crafts. Members of municipal fire and police departments are required to do class work where laws and ordinances are explained to them, and they are schooled in law enforcement, fire prevention, first-aid treatment and fire fighting. Why not a school for inspectors of building? Intelligent inspection of building in some aspects is even more important than some functions performed by police and fire departments. A desirable kind of inspection work to be efficient and effective must be carried on as a profession in itself.

When the writer was connected with the municipal inspection service in Los Angeles the building inspection department achieved highly productive results by class work with district building and plumbing inspectors as students.

#### RECIPROCAL RESPECT

Nothing will gain more respect for public inspectors than their being able to explain intelligently to those with whom they come in contact the "why" of as well as the "must" of laws and ordinances regulating building, housing, health and safety. And inspectors well trained in their own profession have better regard for the perhaps mistaken viewpoint of the fellow on the outside of the counter. Reciprocal respect is theirs without the asking. Moreover, better, more practical, intelligent and understandable building codes will evolve.

The writer predicts that in the not far distant future California and other States will enact legislation fixing standards of qualifications for those who engage in the business of or are employed in the act, capacity or labor of inspectors of building and inspection activities that have to do with the safeguarding of life and property.

Comment on this subject from inspectors and the building fraternity is cordially invited.

\* \* \*

H. G. Hansen, formerly San Bernardino city building inspector, will engage in the contracting business, according to report. He retired from the office of building inspector last month.



## THE INSPECTOR

## Ask THE INSPECTOR

*Under this heading are published questions and answers dealing with building problems. Herewith are published a number of queries asked of The Inspector and the answers. Pop the question. Your name will be omitted if you wish.*

Q.—Does the new cabinet created by law for the consolidation of State departments in California legislate out of existence the State Housing Commission and the State Industrial Accident Board?

A.—At the recent session of the Legislature a number of bills were passed which have been signed by the Governor, designed to co-ordinate governmental functions of several State departments. One of these bills creates a Department of Industrial Relations which co-ordinates the functions heretofore exercised by the California Immigration and Housing Commission and the State Industrial Accident Commission and other State boards. This bill provides that the boards remain in existence with practically the same duties as heretofore, but these commissions become divisions under the Department of Industrial Relations, headed by a director in charge.

\* \* \*

Q.—An out of the State subscriber asks: Can you help an interested reader to learn the names and addresses of the heads of building departments and fire chiefs in Los Angeles and San Francisco; also State fire chief or fire marshal, if there is such an official?

A.—John J. Backus, room 33, City Hall, and Ralph J. Scott, 217 South Hill street, are superintendent of building and fire chief, respectively, of Los Angeles. John P. Horgan, room 276, City Hall, and Thomas R. Murphy, room 2, City Hall, are chief building inspector and fire chief, respectively, of San Francisco.

Jay W. Stevens, State fire marshal, has offices at 1014 Merchants Exchange Building, San Francisco.

\* \* \*

Q.—We have again been asked several times whether any new law changes the provisions of the California State Housing Law to permit forced draft ventilation for water-closet compartments and bathrooms in apartment houses and thereby eliminate the need for open vent shafts?

A.—The answer is, no. A bill which passed the California Legislature was afterward found defective and the Governor refused it approval. This leaves the matter the same as it has been for several years and no change can again be considered by the Legislature until it is convened two years hence.

\* \* \*

The Santa Barbara building department was legislated out of existence recently, but was re-created by emergency ordinance.

\* \* \*

A sprinkler ordinance conforming to underwriters' regulations has been approved in Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

## NUTTY?

Aldermen of Brockton, Massachusetts, recently granted permission to a building owner to shoot squirrels which he said were eating holes in the roof of his house, somewhere in the center of the city.

## Tell THE INSPECTOR

*This column is dedicated to kicks and comments. Names omitted on request. Right is reserved to publish or reject any complaints received. Give name and address in evidence of good faith. This department is open for constructive criticisms.*

## RESIDENTIAL LOT AREAS FIXED

Six thousand square feet is the minimum area of lot on which a single family dwelling may be erected in Salt Lake City, according to a reported recommendation of the City Planning Commission. A double dwelling house would have to be built on a lot of at least 9000 square feet to conform to the commission's plan. And there must be no less than 8 feet between each dwelling and the property line, while the aggregate of unoccupied space on both sides of dwellings must total 20 feet. What would happen to the 25-foot lots in San Francisco if similar regulations were enacted by the city fathers?

\* \* \*

## ARCHITECTS MUST BID FOR JOBS

That there is no authority of law to commission private architects to prepare plans and specifications for State buildings on a percentage basis is the gist of an opinion reported to have been rendered by U. S. Webb, State Attorney-General for California, when he notified Paul Bailey, State Director of Public Works, of procedure to follow. General Webb advised there must be competitive bidding.

\* \* \*

## PORTLAND COPIES CALIFORNIA LAW

Desiring to conform to requirements of the California Housing Law, changes in ordinances in Portland are reported to have been presented to the city council. Other States and cities frequently have looked with favor on the California Housing Law as one which can be copied with profit. It has stood the test of time and weathered attacks in court.

\* \* \*

## SANTA ANA HAS CITY MANAGER

Beginning this month the municipal business of Santa Ana will be handled by a city manager, the new position having been created by ordinance. Building, plumbing and electrical inspection work will be under jurisdiction of the city manager, but carried on by inspectors as in the past.

\* \* \*

## OAKLAND WILL HAVE NEW CODE

Frank Colburn, Oakland commissioner of public health and safety, predicts that in the not far distant future a new building code will become law in that city. A. S. Holmes, building inspector, is reported to have worked on a suitable code for the past several months.

\* \* \*

## SEATTLE BUILDING CODE CHANGED

The Seattle building ordinance has been amended by two separate ordinances affecting the use, manufacture and inspection of tin-clad doors and relating to cement containers, cement mixes and grading of sand and gravel.

\* \* \*

A five-day week is reported to have been adopted on building work in Santa Barbara with the exception of two jobs.

## THE INSPECTOR

### FAT MEN'S BUILDING CODE

Not to be outdone perhaps by all the building codes in the making, the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco is considering an ordinance to require greater space between seats in theatres, measured back to back, for "convenience" and "comfort" of theatregoers.

The Board of Supervisors might ask the City Attorney if he thinks the courts would sustain an ordinance which would cut out 25 per cent of seating accommodations in theatres in order to furnish "convenience" and "comfort" to patrons who voluntarily attend performances; or whether the exercise of police powers granted cities by charters is limited to passage of ordinances designed to provide well-defined requirements for "safety." Also, the City Attorney might be asked if theatres in every city in the country have not for years established the fact that the requisite space between seats now provided by the San Francisco building law is safe, and, if so, by what token this practice could be proved harmful to the satisfaction of a learned judge who considers nothing but cold facts.

Theatres, of course, may enlarge their seats if they wish; but to force them to provide fat men's seats would seem like class legislation.

### NO PERMITS FOR COUNTY WORK

Special dispensation has been written into the Los Angeles Building Code to exempt the county of Los Angeles from the burden of obtaining city building permits for county structures built within the territorial limits of the city. It may be all right to favor the county authorities and remove requirements they think burdensome, but what about the poor fellow trying hard to pay for his little home, humble though it may be? And the more humble it is the more deserving of consideration he is.

\* \* \*

Twenty-five million dollars for a 110-story building 1200 feet in height was the high record set by New York when the building inspector approved plans for the Larkin Tower structure.

\* \* \*

Master plumbers assembled in annual convention of the California State association went on record against the proposed five-day week for plumbers.

\* \* \*

Charles Ver Valen, for more than two years building inspector in Centralia, Washington, resigned that post in June.



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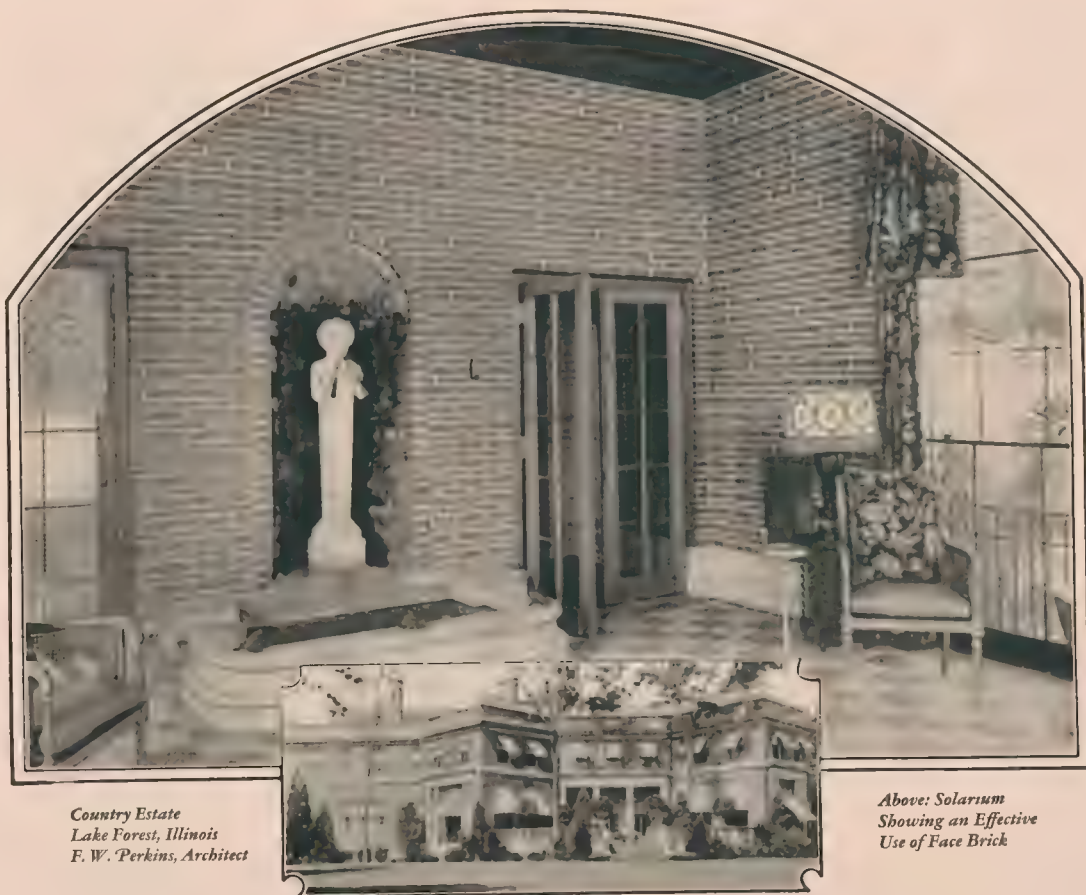
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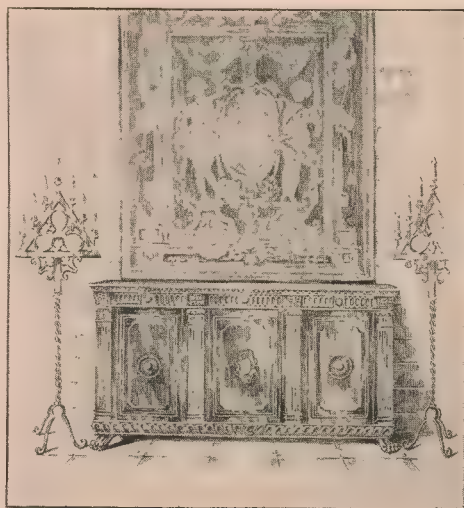
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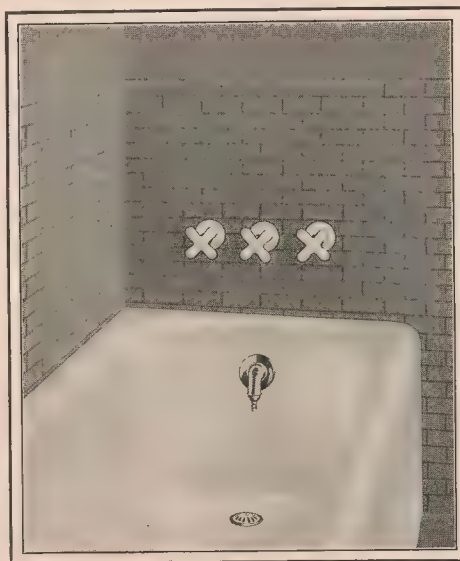
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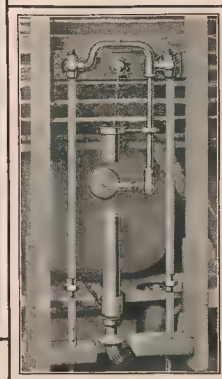
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# MUELLER

## WHY HAVE AN ARCHITECT?

[Concluded from page 9]

sign, composition and appointment, charm, color, distinctiveness, individuality and artistic character, which are so much a part of the architect's training and constant expression. And the important point to bear in mind is that these are the things which add immeasurably to the house, not only as an abode, but also in infinite intrinsic value of dollars and cents. In this new country of ours we have so far had time and consideration for only the purely practical and utilitarian. It is but natural that elements of refinement and beauty should have been overlooked, and we have not yet arrived at any general, accepted standards of artistic expression. We, however, know that our physical environment has a tremendous influence upon our spiritual and moral life. The education and training of our architects as a class have equipped them to give aesthetic and artistic expression to our physical entourage, which has unquestionably been an immeasurable contribution to our natural assets, and has had a tremendous influence upon our aesthetic life and expression.

The next element of value in an architect's service is that of proper detailing of construction, and specification of materials. The money spent on maintenance and repair because of leaks, cracks, faulty construction, poor materials, etc., on ninety per cent of our houses over a period of five years would more than pay the initial commission to an architect and avoid all this grief.

And this brings us to the last great advantage of employing an architect, and one which, unfortunately, few people realize. It is that of architectural supervision of construction. The architectural profession has collectively done little to enlighten the public as to what constitutes architectural service, and few people realize that the architect is a professional adviser to be retained for architectural counsel, the same as an attorney is retained for legal counsel. He is first the professional adviser of the client to give the advantage of his expert knowledge of planning, designing and construction; and, second, he is the agent or professional representative of the owner in all relations with contractors and material concerns, to see that the interests of the client are properly observed and carried out. His expert knowledge of construction enables him to supervise the work, and see that the contractors not only do their work properly, but that the plans and specifications are carried out honestly with regard to use of materials and methods of construction. This is something not one out of five hundred clients can do for himself, and the saving here alone would frequently pay an architect's fee.

Beware of those builders who agree to design homes free and others who give so-called free plans. You can be sure you are paying for them somewhere along the line, whether you realize it or not. The chances are that an amount even greater than the fee you would pay an architect is being squeezed out somewhere.

A few contractors and some real estate concerns have what they call an architectural department to give their clients this service. But the disadvantage of this is that the important element of supervision is left out. You have no check on what you are getting. You have no one to represent your interests.

\* \* \*

The Standard Government Form of Construction Contract, No. 23, which was placed in use on January 1, 1927, does not contemplate that the findings of the contracting officer as to the facts relative to the causes and extent of delay shall be approved by the head of his department, unless an appeal is filed by the contractor within thirty days from the date of such finding of fact.

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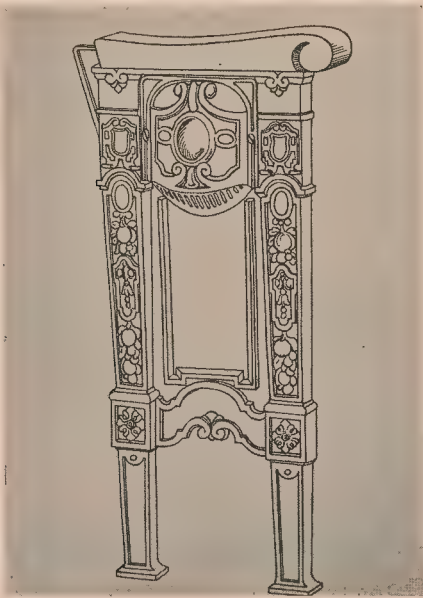
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## SEATING EQUIPMENT

[Continued from page 39]

finest of its kind in America today. The building itself achieves dignity and rare impressiveness through its utter simplicity. So pure and gracefully simple are the lines of its pews, so beautiful is the rhythm of the grain in the dull, richly polished wood, that the pews stand not formally stiff, as pews seem to have a way of doing, but as flexible links in the majestic sweep and exquisite rhythm of the whole. Other worthy examples of the seat-making art, but interpreting different motives, are to be found in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame, the Wilshire Boulevard Congregational Church, Los Angeles, and All Saints Episcopal Church, Pasadena.



Considering theatres and amusement places, the idea is growing of having the seating in even the simplest places embody their motive and spirit, rather than being plainly utilitarian, and in the larger houses the imagination of designer and colorist is allowed wide latitude. Conspicuous among lavishly appointed houses for the entertainment of the masses is the recently opened Graumann movie house, Hollywood. Upon the metal uprights of the chairs is a raised design, whose lines and several colors are typically Chinese and Oriental. Seats of scarlet leather, amply padded, complete the effect. Less pretentious, but not less perfect in its details and appointments, is The Alhambra, neighborhood "movie" house, San Francisco. Here also the design, colors and whole makeup of the chairs convey the message of the dramatic and luxurious as evolved by the Spanish and Moorish influences.

As a matter of fact, the seating of moving picture houses has overnight sprung into the position of a high art. So insistent are the builders of these bewildering creations that house the cinema arts for the luxurious, lavish and fanciful in seating, that they may be said to have instituted a renaissance in seating units for theatrical structures. The millions of "movie" patrons who nightly follow the loves and fortunes of their favorite heroines and heroes do so from chairs whose comfort,

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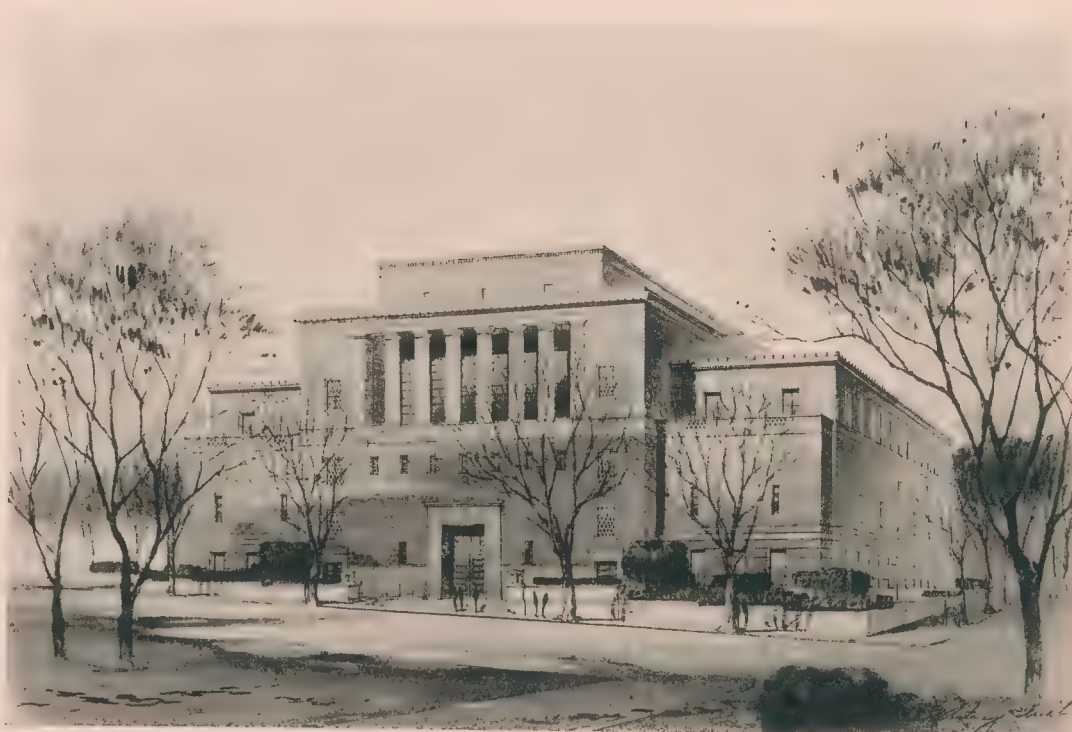
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costliness, beauty and downright luxury were very likely unknown in those richly wondrous days of "The glory that was Greece, and the splendor that was Rome." Wherefore, America may now claim the distinction of having mothered a renaissance and it may be said with some truth that, if the ancients far outstripped us in the art of fine drama, we excel them in the appointments of the structures that house this amazing drama of the silver sheet.

\* \* \*

## DECORATIVE ASPECTS IN HEATING

[Concluded from page 41]

apparently the most simple, compact and attractive thing of this kind thus far developed. These regulators can be put up in any inconspicuous, out-of-the-way corner or even concealed behind a picture, and they are not much more noticeable than an ordinary switch plate.

Aside from what heating-system manufacturers are doing to give their products decorative value, the ingenious architect may still find scope for his imagination to operate on radiators and the like. A conspicuous example of this possibility is afforded in the cafeteria of the Tele-



phone Building in San Francisco. Here the steam radiators, of the type ordinarily used in commercial buildings, have been painted the same background color and stenciled with the same design as are employed on the walls. The radiators are recessed, but the treatment eliminates the sense of an ungainly break in the wall surfaces.

The architect's methods in this case gracefully minimize the obstacles to achieving artistry and interest in the most difficult and uncompromising exterior units of modern heating systems. In some cases the plan would appear to be an even more desirable solution than the use of screens or covers. At least it is a suggestion that lends itself to wide adaptation in the home, where it is sorely needed; as well as in the church, school, lodge room, clubhouse, hotel, auditorium, office structure and shop building. This idea may not be the ultimate, but it is certainly a happy example of mitigating necessary evils, which, as we have noted before, are ever with us in planning the heating arrangements for large or small buildings.

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WRITE FOR YOUR COPY OF "PAINT MILEAGE"

# JURY OF AWARD FOR ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

Announcement has been made by J. Lister Holmes, professional adviser of the West Coast Woods Architectural Competition, of the personnel of the jury of award for the competition. The jury selected comprises five members of the American Institute of Architects of national repute from representative sections of the United States as follows: Emery Stanford Hall, of Chicago; Henry C. Hahn and Louis C. Jaeger, both of New York City; W. R. B. Willcox, of Eugene, Ore., and David J. Myers, of Seattle.

The competition closes at 5 p.m. on August 1, next, and within two weeks thereafter the jury will meet in Seattle to decide the winners in the competition. The best design will receive \$2,000 in cash, the second best \$500 and ten honorable mentions \$100 each.

Mr. Hall is a member of the firm of Emery Stanford Hall, Bisbee & Rhenisch of Chicago. He is a director of the Illinois Society of Architects, chairman of the publication and materials and methods committees of that society and editor of the Illinois Society's Handbook for Architects and Builders. He is the A. I. A. representative on the consulting committee of the National Lumber Standardization Conference. Mr. Hall has devoted his attention largely to designing large public and commercial buildings rather than residences, yet he always has manifested a sympathetic attitude toward wood construction and his work in designing a group of wood buildings for the Y. W. C. A. summer camp at Lake Geneva, Wis., is directly in line with the development which the West Coast woods competition is calculated to stimulate.

Mr. Hahn is associated with Francis Y. Joannes of New York City and is president of the Atlantic Division, Architects' Small-House Service Bureau, serving four years as chairman of the division's plan committee. He also is director of program with the Producers' Research Council of the A. I. A.

Mr. Jaeger is an associate of Roger Bullard of New York City and is vice-president of the Atlantic Division, Architects' Small-House Service Bureau, being chairman of the division's plan committee. He has been prominently identified with residence construction throughout his practice.

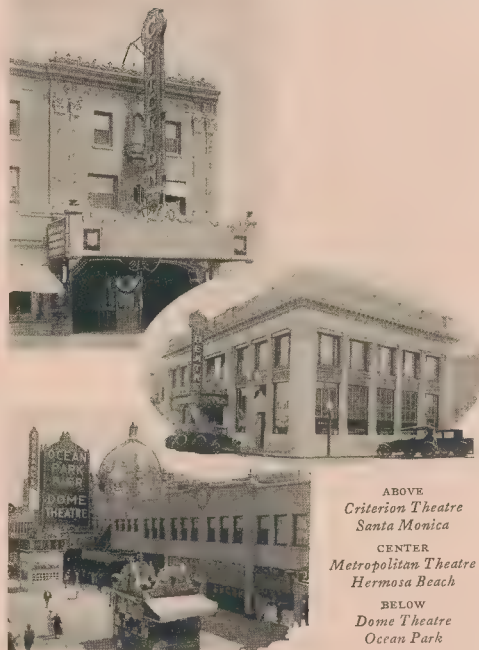
Mr. Willcox is a Fellow in the A. I. A. and a member of the jury of Fellows of that organization. Formerly he was a director in the A. I. A. and for some years he has been professor in charge of the Department of Architecture of the University of Oregon at Eugene, where he is also in private practice. Mr. Willcox formerly was located in Seattle and has won an enviable reputation as a designer of fine residences, hotels, apartments and other large structures.

Mr. Myers is a member of the firm of Schack, Young & Myers of Seattle. He is a past president of the Washington State Chapter, American Institute of Architects, and is noted as a designer of many splendid homes and public buildings in the Northwest. Mr. Myers has officiated on the jury of award in a large number of the more important architectural competitions in the West and few architects in the country are regarded as familiar as he with West Coast woods, their variety of uses and their application in residence construction.

\* \* \*

## OHSKY! ORDINANCE KOVICH

A California city reports its building inspector received a request from a Russian in Russia for a copy of the municipal building ordinance. What that Russian will do once he reads all the commandments and the prohibitions set out in California building ordinances remains to be seen.



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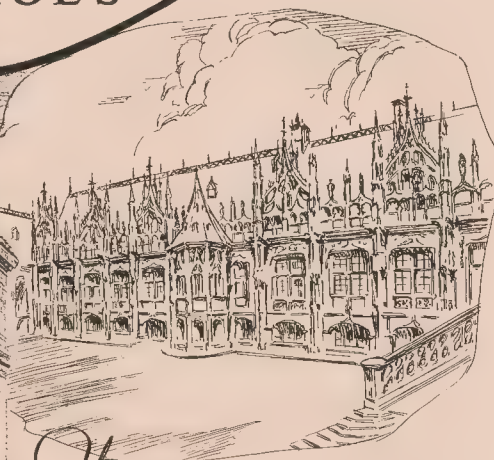
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### THE AMERICAN ART MANUAL

The American Art Annual, Volume XXIII, for the year 1926, has recently been issued by the American Federation of Arts. In this most complete book of reference published on contemporary American art, the regular features, brought up to date, are supplemented by new features.

Directories of Art Museum Workers and Craftsmen are the special features of this volume; short biographical sketches are given of approximately 600 museum workers and 1750 craftsmen in twenty-five branches of the crafts.

Significant events in the world of art which occurred during 1926 constitute a review of over fourteen pages. The Sesquicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia was the outstanding event of the year; and Frank A. Munsey's bequest of approximately \$40,000,000 to the Metropolitan Museum of Art was one of the most colossal gifts ever made by a single individual to an art institution. Gifts of cash, buildings, works of art and other property, to the cause of art, probably established a record during 1926. In addition to Mr. Munsey's gift, the estate of Col. W. R. Nelson, estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000, has become available for the Nelson Collection of Kansas City. Yale University received \$1,000,000 for the erection of an art museum. Many fine buildings for various public purposes were erected during the year; more than thirty important memorials and other works in sculpture were dedicated.

New York City has again broken its record as the greatest market in the world today, for works of art, according to the 112½ pages in the American Art Annual, devoted to "Paintings Sold at Auction." More than thirty paintings fetched five-figure sums, as contrasted with seven paintings in 1925 and three or four the previous year. Many of these paintings were included in the several sensational sales of noted collections: Billings, Clark, Chiesa and Leverhulme. Nine paintings by Corot brought from \$10,000 to \$50,000 each; among the others were an "Old" Crome, \$47,000; a Messina, \$65,000; an Orcagna, \$45,000, and a Millais, \$31,000.

Nearly one hundred eminent artists and patrons of art passed away during 1926. Among them were Joseph Pennell, the United States' greatest etcher; Mary Cassatt, Thomas Moran and Ben Foster, painters; A. D. F. Hamlin, architect; Ralph King, J. M. Wade and John E. D. Trask, patrons and collectors of art, and museum officials, and Charles Dexter Allen, our foremost authority on book-plates.

The American Art Annual for 1926 contains, in addition, a directory of art dealers throughout the country; lists of publications which devote space to art news; seventeen beautiful full-page, half-tone illustrations, photographs of paintings, sculpture, museum buildings and artists; and complete indices, including cross references.

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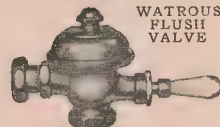
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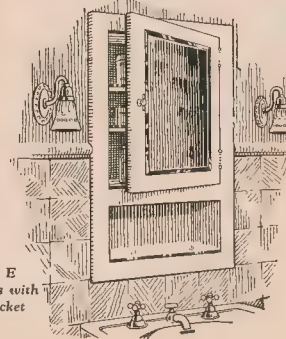
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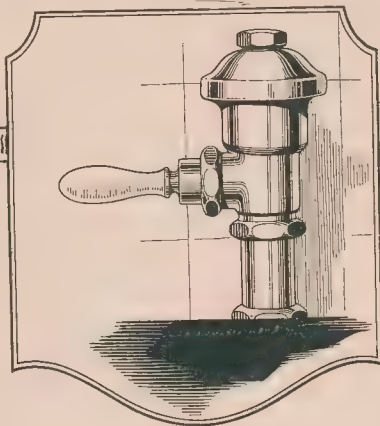
You will no doubt be interested to know that the Sloan Flush Valves installed in the Eitel Hotel are giving very fine service.

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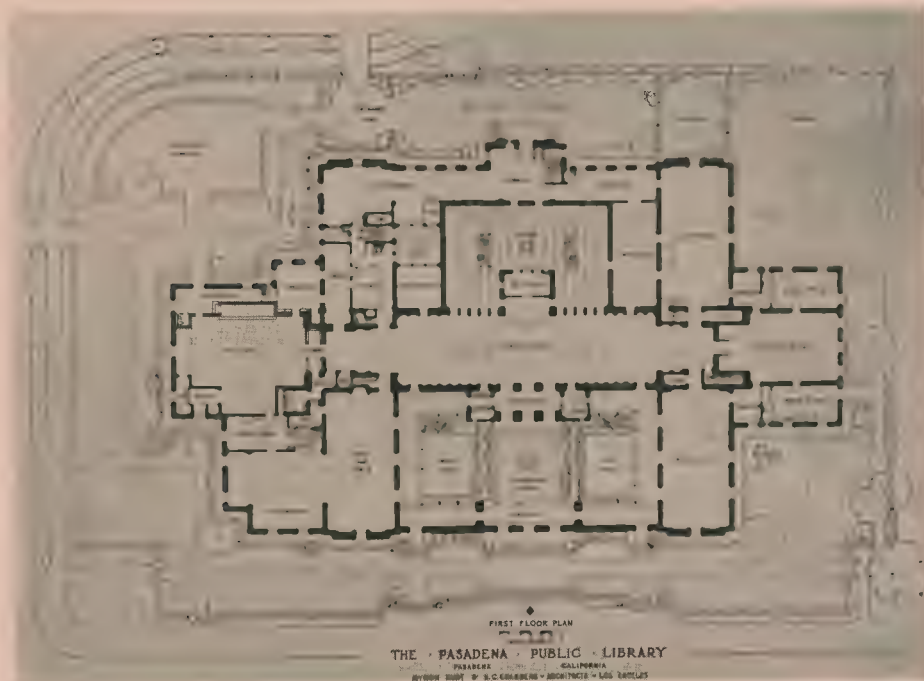


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## THE HOUSING OF LIBRARIES

[ BY HARRIS ALLEN, A. I. A. ]

**I**F THERE is any virtue in logic, the function for which a building is intended should be expressed in its architecture. This statement, of course, is trite—is axiomatic—is almost fundamental. It is, nevertheless, one of the most frequently violated of architectural tenets.

A library is of necessity a record of the past; a collection of the recorded history of the human race, of mind and matter. It is certainly logical to clothe such archives historically—employing the principles of pure design, proportion, fenestration, scale, to express properly and beautifully the functional nature of the building—rather than to interpret the contemporaneous

type of construction. The latter method may not be incompatible with the expression of many uses of a library; but it cannot possibly alter the scope and meaning of its contents.

All of which is a prologue, admittedly the record of personal reactions, to stating that the new Pasadena Public Library comes near to being a triumph of architectural design.

It is not classical in the sense of being archeological, but classical motives have been used in a manner peculiarly appropriate to California traditions, to the California climate. There is dignity, even nobility, in mass and proportion; the requirements of library use are admirably suggested, even to the seclusion, the quiet, sought by the student, which are intimated by





Patio Colonnade, Pasadena Public Library  
Myron Hunt and H. C. Chambers, Architects

the entrance court and its high sheltering wall.

Seldom do we see a large building with such essential unity of design (both in plan and facade), each of whose many elements is an integral part of the whole, each in itself a fine bit of composition; from every angle, a picture; every detail, every ornament, appropriate and satisfying. The color, the texture, are varied,



Circulation Room, Pasadena Public Library  
Myron Hunt and H. C. Chambers, Architects

yet harmonious. It is interesting to know that the exterior plaster color is in two tones, lighter on north surfaces. Some forty samples were tried out, one being found finally which produces a pinkish shadow, but seen in sunlight looks much like English gray; a color warm on overcast days, but cool in summer.

To solve the problems of such a complicated organization, so large a building, with a one-story plan, is a feat worth comment. Study of the scheme showed that monumental stairs and hallways must be eliminated, including elevators, entrance lobbies, and so on. The result has been a great room 33 feet wide, 45 feet high, 204 feet long, which combines all the above features with those of library administration, and from which radiate the other departments of the



Detail, Los Angeles Public Library  
Bertram Goodhue and Associates, Architects

building. This room is extraordinarily impressive from its great length and height and the effective use of material and color. From a practical standpoint it is equally successful. It, as well as the other large rooms required, has been prepared for restful acoustics by the use of cork floors, acoustic plaster walls, and wooden ceilings whose panels are of an acoustic material made by grinding up sugar-cane stalks. The quantities of all these acoustic materials were carefully figured by experts to produce the proper shortening of the period of echo. The final checking by Prof. Burt of the California Institute of Technology was extremely favorable.

The stack room being obviously the center of library functioning, it developed that the scheme of this one-story building is really a group of

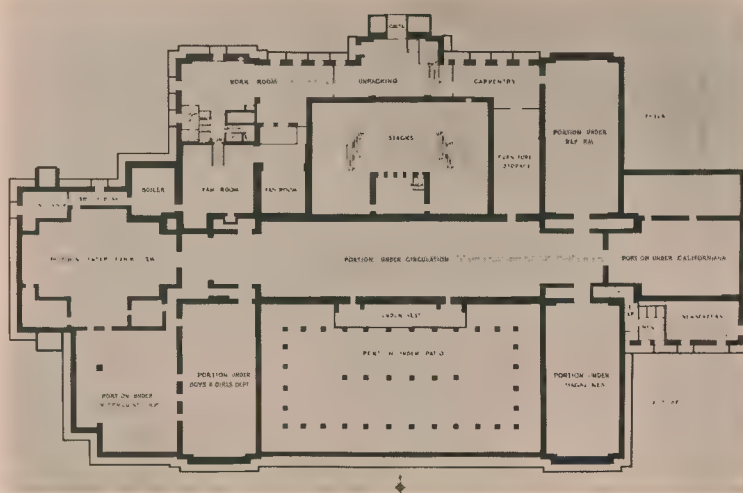
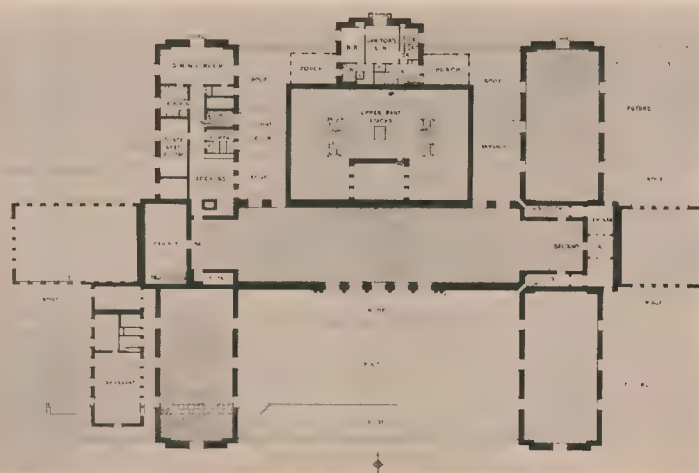
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PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Miles Bernd*





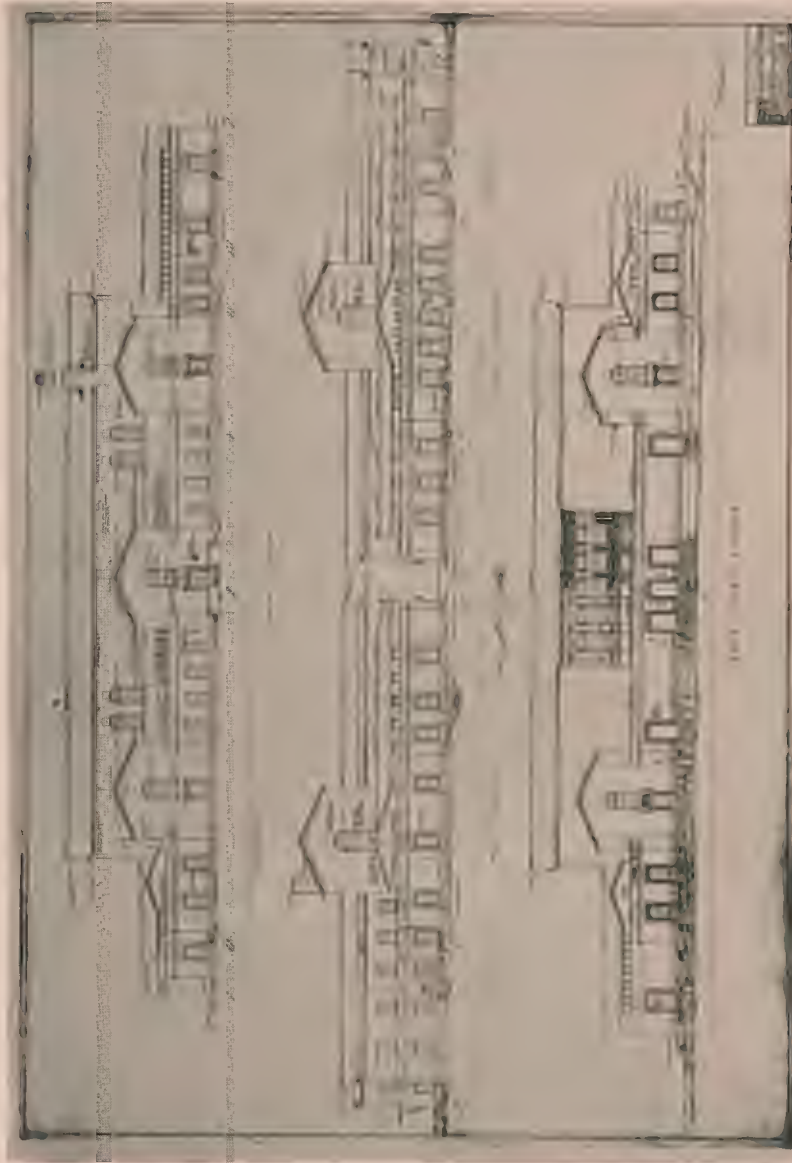
ABOVE—SECOND FLOOR PLAN; BELOW—BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN; PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS



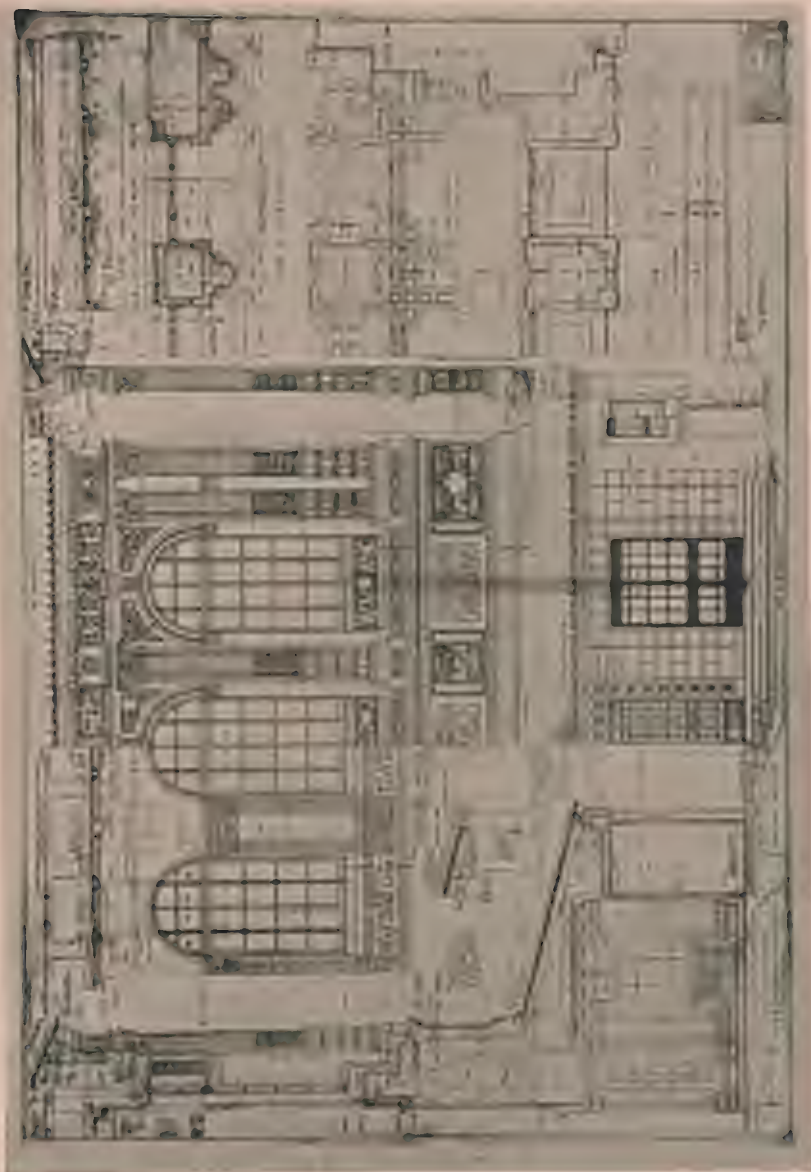
CIRCULATION ROOM, PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by W. M. Clarke*





ELEVATIONS, PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS



DETAILS OF CENTRAL MOTIF, PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS





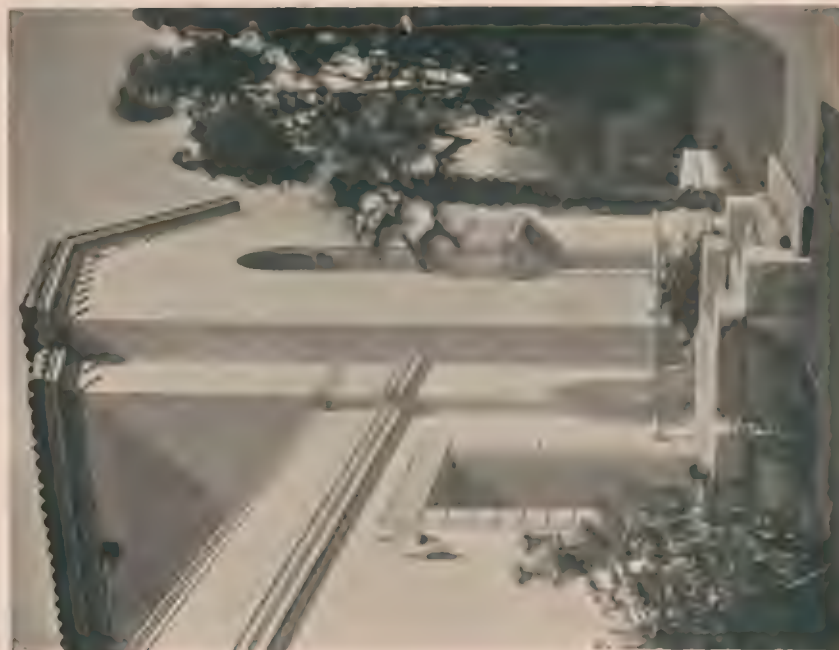
Photo by G. *Pasadena Public Library, Pasadena, California. Myron Hunt and H. C. Chambers, Architects*



PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY AT NIGHT, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by H. M. Clarke*





LEFT—EAST WING; RIGHT—DETAIL, MAIN ENTRANCE; PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIF. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Miller Be*



MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

END; PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY,

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PATIO ENTRANCE, PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Geo. R. King*



PATIO AT NIGHT, PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
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LEFT—BOYS' AND GIRLS' ROOM; RIGHT—REFERENCE ROOM; PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIF. MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS



MANTEL IN BOYS' AND GIRLS' ROOM; PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
 MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS. MAUD DAGGETT, SCULPTOR  
 (PRESENTED BY THE SCULPTOR IN MEMORY OF HER PARENTS, MR. AND MRS. CHARLES DAGGETT)

*Photo by Mott Studios*





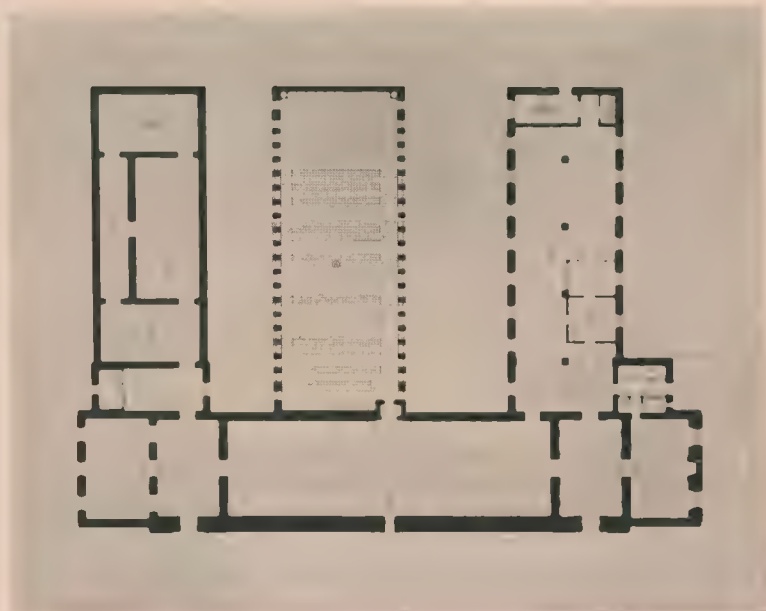
HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT, ARCHITECT (MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS)

*Photo by Shirley Vance Martin*



HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MYRON HUNT, ARCHITECT (MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS)  
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FLOOR PLANS, HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
MYRON HUNT, ARCHITECT (MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS)



HILL AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. MARSTON, VAN PELT AND MAYBURY, ARCHITECTS

(Photo by George H. Brown)





ENTRANCE DETAIL, HILL AVENUE LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
MARSTON, VAN PELT AND MAYBURY, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by George Haight*



INTERIOR DETAIL, HILL AVENUE LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
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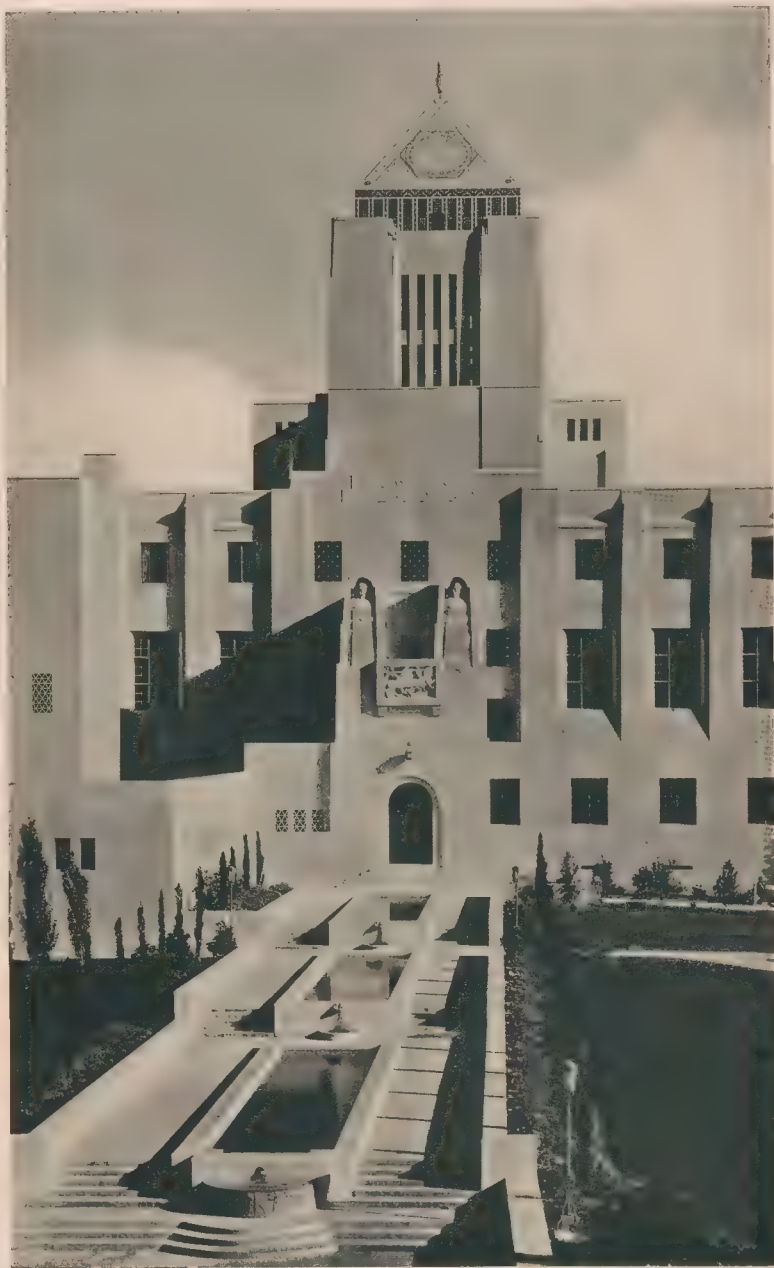
PATIO, HILL AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
MARSTON, VAN PELT AND MAYBURY, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by George Haight*



LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. BERTRAM GOODHUE, ARCHITECT; CARLETON M. WINSLOW, ASSOCIATE





LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

BERTRAM GOODHUE, ARCHITECT; CARLETON M. WINSLOW, ASSOCIATE

*Photo by Mott Studios*



DETAIL ENTRANCE, LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
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*Photo by Mott Studios*





CHILDREN'S ROOM, LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
BERTRAM GOODHUE, ARCHITECT; CARLETON M. WINSLOW, ASSOCIATE

*Photos by Mott Studios*



CHILDREN'S ROOM, LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1170-1174 PUEBLO, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. THE NEW SAN JOSE PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1000-1004 PUEBLO, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA. 1904-1905. PHOTOS BY MATT ST. JOHN





LEFT—REFERENCE ROOM; RIGHT—ROTUNDA; LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY. BERTRAM GOODHUE, ARCHITECT; CARLETON M. WINSLOW, ASSOCIATE

*Photos by Mett Studios*



HOUSES FOR COSMOPOLITAN BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, OAKLAND, CALIF. GEO. H. ELLINGER, ARCHITECT

## THE ARCHITECT IN THE SPECULATIVE BUILDING FIELD

[BY J. L. MEEK]



UNMISTAKABLE evidence that educational work in the interest of good architecture and architectural service, furthered by the public press and such organizations as the Small-House Plan Service of Los Angeles, United States Small-House Service Bureau, Inc., and the Community Arts Association of Pasadena, is bearing fruit, lies in the growing tendency among speculative builders to employ an architect to design groups of houses for them. This growing practice gives the architect entrance to a field whose activities comprise easily 95 per cent of the home-building operations of the country, for it is estimated that only 5 per cent of the private dwellings annually erected in the United States are planned and constructed under the supervision of an architect. Within this speculative field, the sales price of homes runs from as low as \$2,000 to \$15,000 and \$20,000, and in some cases up to \$100,000.

It has been particularly difficult for the architects to reach the speculative builders, because their operations are conducted upon such a narrow margin of profit that their only salvation appeared to lie in rigid standardization of costs and materials and elimination of all expenses not absolutely necessary. Employment of an architect was and still is, to the average speculative operator, a criminally useless extravagance, for the average successful builder cherishes an abiding faith in the safety of half a dozen stock designs, repeated at judicious intervals and varied only slightly.

But within the past five years there has been a visible tendency among the larger and more successful builders in Western cities to have blocks and larger groups of homes planned in an architect's office. Westwood Park in

San Francisco and the operations of R. C. Hillen of Oakland are among some of the more extensive home district developments in Northern California handled in this manner. Doubtless there are others of equal or greater scope and merit in other districts and cities. The movement on the part of the builders is quite voluntary and constitutes proof of the awakened public consciousness and demand for homes embodying essential principles of correct architectural design, as well as substantial materials and good workmanship.

There are practical monetary advantages to the builder and purchaser of such homes, which the architect who may be approached on such work will do well to bring to the attention of his prospective client. The fact that the houses have been designed by an architect of good standing with a view to obtaining individualized exteriors is a talking, sales and advertising point that weighs heavily with the home-buying public. No matter how practically and prosaically minded a home purchaser is, he hardly relishes the thought that his home is precisely like every other one in the block. To the average woman the idea is an abomination. Individuality, distinctiveness and variety have a sure-fire appeal.

Variety and interest will be coupled with harmony of the whole and a pleasing relationship between the individual units, through the skill of the architect. These factors make for stabilization of values, for no one house will achieve notice or false sales value by reason of effects or devices not in keeping with sound architectural design. The house that does attract attention by violation, rather than original, balanced expression, of accepted architectural principles, invariably presents a most distressing appearance when depreciation sets in. Its depreciation detracts from the value of the house on either



side of it, and from the whole street. Thus by buying into a block where the architecture is uniform in standard, the purchaser protects himself against depreciation losses beyond his control.

Inasmuch as the speculative builder, employing an architect, would be erecting sizable groups of homes, the charges for architectural service can profitably be figured on a volume basis. The cost of this item on no one house would be so great as to make any objectional difference in the selling price, and these factors serve the purposes of all parties concerned—architect, builder and buyer.

We show herewith several plates, illustrative of work among Northern California architects along the lines discussed. Angus McSweeney's houses for Louis Heilman, San Francisco builder, are of the attached variety, common to the Bay city, and are on 25-foot lots. McSweeney's work, all factors of the case considered, shows individual and collective merit. The general excellence of the group is very striking, in contrast to the indifferently planned and poorly harmonized construction on the opposite side of the street and in adjoining blocks, yet in selling from \$10,500 to \$13,500 these good-looking homes are not selling in excess of other new, speculatively built dwellings in the immediate neighborhood.

Architect George Ellinger had still narrower price limits to keep within in his group of homes for the Metropolitan Building and Loan Association of Oakland,

selling from \$6,500 to \$7,500. He has done a notably good job with the facilities available, and has demonstrated what an architect can accomplish in work of this type.

\* \* \*

#### NEW AND RECENT BOOKS\*

*Il Giardino Italiano* (Italian Gardens), by Luigi Dami. (Limited ed.) 350 pages of photographic illustrations. Size 10x14. Bound (mmBT), Price, \$22.50.

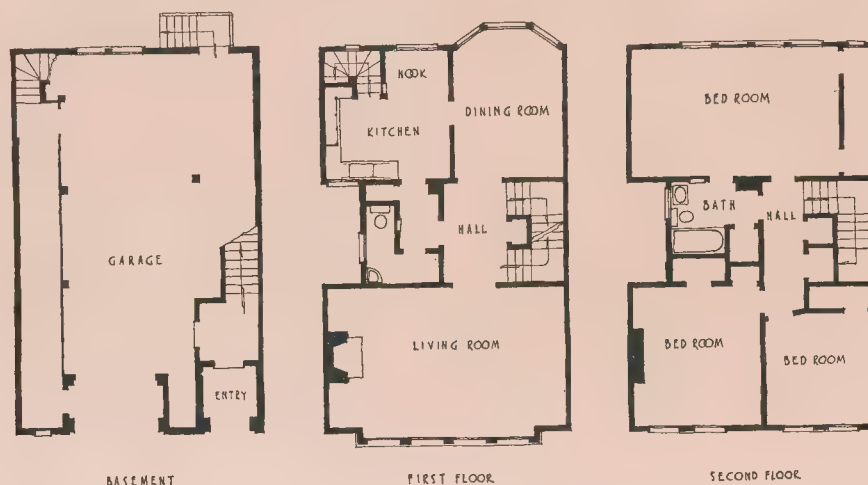
*Le Fontane D'Italia* (Fountains of Italy), by Arduino Colasanti. (Limited edition.) 306 pages of photographs of the most famous and beautiful fountains of Italy. Size 10x14 inches. Bound (mmBT), \$22.50.

*Italian Renaissance Architecture*, by Gromort. (182 pages.) A short historic and descriptive account with a series of 110 photographs and measured drawings and 45 illustrations in the text. Translated from French into English by George F. Waters. Bound with paper cover. Size 7x9 inches. (mV). Price (with French text, \$3.60), \$4.00.

*Le Fer Forge (Ornamental Wrought Iron-Work Used in Modern Decoration)*, by Gaston Fleury. 36 full-size photographic plates. Size 13x18 inches. Portfolio form (trdMA), \$14.50.

*Villas Normandes and Anglaises*. 52 full-size plates of photographs and plans of city and country houses of the English and Normandie style. Much half-timber work. Size 13x18 1/2 inches. In portfolio form (rtdMA), \$8.50.

\*May be secured from Architectural Book Shop, 46 Kearny St., S. F.



HOUSES FOR LOUIS HEILMAN, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. DESIGNED BY ANGUS MCSWEENEY



HOUSES FOR LOUIS HEILMAN, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
DESIGNED BY ANGUS McSWEENEY





ABOVE—SGRAFFITTO PANEL, RESIDENCE OF MRS. LLOYD ACKERMAN, SAN FRANCISCO  
H. H. GUTTERSON, ARCHITECT

BELOW—FRESCOES IN DISPLAY ROOM, CALIFORNIA STUCCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, SAN FRANCISCO  
SIMEON PELENC, ARTIST

# INTERIOR DECORATING



Fresco in Colored Cement. Simeon Pelenc, Artist

## THE FRESCO WILL LIVE AGAIN

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]

**T**HE ART of fresco painting is inseparably associated with what are generally considered the Golden Ages of Architecture. Pompeii, Greece, Egypt, Persia, Chaldea and Italy in the first beginnings of their civilizations, in the heyday of their cultures and arts, produced frescoes whose beauty is still something to marvel at. Fresco painting is likewise an art of great names. Fra Angelico, Ghirlandajo, Massacio, Gozzoli and Giotto were master architects and painters whose frescoes contributed in large part to the fame of the churches, palaces, and other sumptuous structures erected during medieval and ecclesiastical periods of European history.

So great an art fell into disuse, not wholly because the ages produced no masters of it, but rather because the forms of architecture changed so that there were no large, flat surfaces upon which frescoes could be put to advantage. In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries and as the most active building of Gothic structures moved northward and into England, Gothic underwent a transition. Plain surfaces and expanses of ceilings and domes gave way to more sharply pitched arches, and these lines, coupled with the use of tall columns and spire effects, afforded little suitable space for fresco painting. To the north of Europe and in England there was a marked tendency

toward restraint of color, and even where casual examples of this ancient art are found in these sections, they lack something of the vividness and interest of color so characteristic of the works of warmer climes.

But it is now several centuries since English Gothic has dominated the architecture of Anglo-Saxon peoples. What we call Gothic today is a mere suggestion of the

[Continue on page 57]



Sgraffito Panel. Simeon Pelenc, Artist







RESIDENCE OF DR. FREDERICK LONG, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
HAROLD G. STONER, ARCHITECT. MRS. FREDERICK LONG, DECORATOR



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## EDITORIAL

### *A City Planning Council for San Francisco*

FOR perhaps two years, the Commonwealth Club has been studying the problem of improving conditions as to City Planning in San Francisco. During the past six months the club committee, or section, as it is called, has been preparing an amendment to the charter, which will be given the most thorough publicity before being brought to vote. It took the precaution to invite the collaboration of delegates from over eighty civic improvement associations, and the proposed amendment has received their unanimous approval.

The essential feature of the new plan is that it provides a coordinating body between the various departments, by which all proposed projects will be fitted into a definite plan for the physical development of San Francisco. This plan is to be prepared with the aid of expert consultants, and will include such matters as streets, subways, bridges, terminals, waterways, parks, playgrounds, public buildings, zoning, heights, setbacks, traffic, fire safety, and general welfare, efficiency and economy. From time to time the plan may be amended or extended.

The council will consist of seven citizens not holding municipal office so appointed that there will always be five older members. To this council each executive city department must submit plans for fixed improvements, which if disapproved within sixty days can only be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the entire membership of the Board of Supervisors.

In other words, the City Planning Council is an advisory, coordinating body whose opinion must be heard on all connected activities, but with no administrative or veto powers. All public officials are to cooperate with the council and furnish it information.

Full publicity is to be given to all its hearings and findings and it must accompany its recommendations with the technical data upon which they are based.

These are the main features of the amendment, which is in a form stated to be legal and constitutional. Whatever criticisms may be made—and it will be criticized by some as going too far and by others as not going far enough—it can not possibly help but be an improvement over present conditions, and can hardly help but lead to a more definite, fore-sighted progress in the

development of a city plan. The Commonwealth Club deserves the sincere gratitude of all citizens who have the welfare of the community at heart.

\* \* \*

### *Information Is Correct*

W. S. HEBBARD, architect of Los Angeles, writes as follows:

"Referring to the July number of the Pacific Coast Architect, page 50, The Inspector answers the question as to whether or not forced draft ventilation is allowed in water-closet compartments and bathrooms in apartments in the amended California State Housing Law, in the negative.

"The Architect and Engineer, on page 58, July number, states that section 31 is amended to permit the ventilation of bath and toilet rooms and kitchens in fireproof apartment houses more than four stories in height by an exhaust system. Again on page 110 it states that section 60 is amended to permit fan exhaust system in fireproof apartments of more than four stories.

"Will you please advise me which is correct?"

The Pacific Coast Architect exercises meticulous care to print only authentic information for architects, especially on questions of such importance as the one here discussed—one which concerns the entire building industry of California.

Therefore, open answer is given Mr. Hebbard in order to set straight others of the building industry who may labor in confusion as a result of contradictory statements.

In The Inspector, combined with the Pacific Coast Architect, for June, there was published an exclusive article which first informed the building fraternity that no changes were made in requirements set out in the California State Housing Act, and this information is equally true today. The building fraternity of California is again referred to editorial and news items published on pages 44 and 49 of The Inspector in the June number of the Pacific Coast Architect and on page 50 of the July issue. All this information is absolutely correct, and has been confirmed by the Secretary of State and other State officials.

Any information to the contrary which may have been published in other periodicals will no doubt be explained by its authors in an equally frank manner.

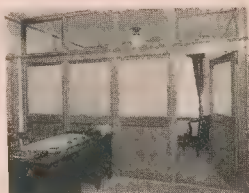
\* \* \*

Architect Russell G. de Lappe, Francis B. Plant, structural engineer, and V. Oglon, associate, have been commissioned by the board of supervisors of Stanislaus county to proceed at once with the plans for the new Stanislaus County Hospital, Modesto, California.



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—in Financial Center Bldg.



Reinhold Partition—entrance to a  
suite—in Financial Center Bldg.

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San Francisco

Frederick H. Meyer, Architect

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# INSTITUTE AND CLUB MEETINGS

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, A. I. A.

The July meeting of the Southern Chapter, A. I. A., was marked by the discussion and transaction of several pieces of business.

Sumner P. Hunt made a talk in which he urged that the Community Planning Committee of the local and national body should show more activity in city planning and building problems.

Charles Cheney, addressing the meeting, urged that the Community Planning Committee of the Chapter be supplemented by another committee, known as the City Planning Committee, and that the Los Angeles Chapter petition the directors of the A. I. A. to appoint a city planning committee.

After discussion of this suggestion, a resolution was adopted to the effect that the president of the A. I. A. should be requested to appoint a committee on city and regional planning.

Mr. Cheney also had on hand a circular letter to be sent to all members of the Chapter, which would call for a vote on the architectural accomplishments of Los Angeles, San Diego and Santa Barbara. The letter-ballots to be filled out and returned, so that a report could be made on them at the August meeting.

It was voted that such letters be sent out.

Chairman S. M. Spaulding of the Educational Committee made a brief report on his department's work. He urged Chapter assistance to architectural students in the public schools and universities. Mr. Spaulding urged establishment of a permanent architectural exhibition and presented several practical suggestions for its establishment. Three possible locations were named in which such an exhibit could be placed.

\* \* \*

## WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, A. I. A.

*Headquarters, Seattle, Wash.*

HARLAN THOMAS . . . . . President  
SHERWOOD D. FORD . . . . . First Vice-President  
H. A. MOLDENHOUR . . . . . Secretary

The June meeting of the Washington State Chapter of the A. I. A. brought together architects and contractors for discussion of their relations and mutual problems.

A. S. Downey, president of the Seattle Chapter of the Associated Contractors of America, was the principal speaker of the evening. In his address Mr. Downey reviewed the activities of the Seattle Chapter of his organization, pointing out that several measures were in force to insure not only cooperation among the contractors themselves but also in their relations with the architects and other workers in the building industry. The speaker also discussed such matters as segregated bids, deposits on plans, alternates and unit prices, the opening of bids and arbitration, as a peaceful and all-around satisfactory settlement of disputes.

Roland E. Borhek, Washington State Chapter, A. I. A., spoke for the architect in these matters and he also made a special plea for arbitration in settlement of trade disputes.

Upon motion by Mr. Downey, accepted by the members present, a committee consisting of two members from each organization was appointed to consider ethical practices and subjects relative to the contacts between architects and contractors.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, A. I. A.

### NEXT MEETING

Due to the vacation period, the next regular meeting of the Northern California Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, will not be held until September 20, 1927. Notice of this meeting will be sent to the members.

\* \* \*

## SAN FRANCISCO ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

The July meeting of the San Francisco Architectural Club, held July 6 in the Club rooms, was marked by the annual election of treasurer and two directors.

Edward Counter was elected treasurer, an office held during the past year by John H. Devitt. Ira Springer was reelected to his place among the directors and John H. Devitt elected to the board position vacated by the retirement of Harry Langley.

Rome Blas, winner of the Scholarship Award, Harvard School of Architecture, has a display of his drawings on exhibit in the banquet room of the Club.

Clyde Truesdell, past secretary of the Club, has left San Francisco for New York and Eastern fields.

\* \* \*

## LOS ANGELES ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

Meetings of the Los Angeles Architectural Club during the warm summer months are being given over to outdoor sports and social functions.

The Club members were the guests of Donald B. Parkinson at the Santa Monica Beach Club, the evening of July 19. An outdoor dinner and program was given, which was hugely enjoyed by the members present.

This outdoor meeting and dinner were so successful that it is planned to do something similar during August, and include the wives and families in the invitations. By such informal gatherings it is hoped to strengthen the spirit and fellowship and understanding among club members as a basis for carrying through constructive, serious programs of work.

\* \* \*

The College of Architecture of the University of Michigan announces that as a result of the annual competition the George G. Booth Traveling Fellowship in Architecture has been awarded to Mr. John E. Dinwiddie by a jury made up of members of the Architectural Faculty and Messrs. Marcus R. Burrowes, Alex. Donaldson and Talmage C. Hughes, the three latter being Detroit architects.

Mr. Dinwiddie is a native of California who graduated from the University of Michigan in 1925, since which time he has been employed in San Francisco and New York offices.

\* \* \*

Plate glass in large sizes has been installed throughout Sacred Heart Church, Flower City Park, Rochester, New York, as a protecting surface for the many stained glass windows in the edifice. The installation of plate glass, instead of the rough or ribbed glass customarily used for this purpose, greatly enhances the exterior appearance of the building since it permits the beauty of the art glass to be viewed from the outside. Sacred Heart is the second church in Rochester to use plate glass in this manner.

\* \* \*

The new Hotel Benjamin Franklin, W. H. Weeks, architect, has recently been opened at San Mateo.



# THE INSPECTOR

TRADE-MARK AND TITLE REGISTERED IN UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

COMBINED WITH PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT AND EDITED BY MARK C. COHN

VOLUME THREE

[ SERIAL ISSUE OF THE INSPECTOR ]

NUMBER EIGHT

## BUILDING MANY MILES LONG

Place all new building construction in California side by side, and it would make one huge building reaching from San Francisco to Los Angeles. In other words, it would provide a roof-paved air-line roadway approximately 325 miles long. This almost incredible information is revealed in fiscal year reports of building permits issued by municipal building departments in cities of California.

San Francisco, Oakland and other California cities contributed their share of upbuilding, but Los Angeles tops the list with building operations that would total more than 150 miles if placed in a straight line.

This formidable line of buildings many miles long includes all classes of construction from the modest bungalow and small private garage to sky-soaring structures such as the 30-story Russ Building in San Francisco and the 28-story new City Hall in Los Angeles.

This brief word picture should serve to impress all with the economic, industrial and commercial importance of the building industry in California.

\* \* \*

## ARCHITECTS WANT ETHICS ENFORCED

Architects in France are endeavoring to organize themselves into a close corporation with authority to discipline members and cancel rights to build, when necessary, according to reports.

It is asserted French architects claim a high standard of ethics, and at present have no recourse against unfair competition. Wherefore they wish to be placed legally on somewhat the same basis as lawyers.

California and all Pacific Coast architects might find profitable thought in this endeavor of the French architects. And to give thought to this subject appears apropos, now that the Supreme Court of California has decided that corporations of licensed architects may engage in the practice of architecture without violating the provisions of the California law regulating the practice of architecture.

\* \* \*

## L. A. APPOINTS HEATING ENGINEER

Otis E. Phillips has been appointed heating and ventilating engineer by the Los Angeles Municipal Building and Safety Commission. This new position was created recently by ordinance. The salary is \$300 a month.

Mr. Phillips is reputed to be well qualified to fill the new position. He has been employed in the municipal building department of that city since September 26, 1922, when he entered the municipal service as an assistant building inspector. About a year afterwards he was promoted to assistant senior building inspector and later again promoted to senior building inspector.

The Inspector commends this appointment and congratulates Mr. Phillips. New and better-paid positions in the municipal service should, whenever possible, be filled by promoting employees who are qualified to step up. And this has been done in the case of Mr. Phillips.

## SANTA ANA CODE SOON EFFECTIVE

E. P. Collier, former City Trustee of Santa Ana, is now City Manager. William H. Tway, president of the Santa Ana Builders' Exchange, at a recent meeting of executives of builders' exchanges in Southern California, reported that a new building code will be effective in Santa Ana within the next month. This code was prepared under direction of the Santa Ana Exchange and represents more than a year's study by builders. It has no connection with any other code or code movement, but adheres to standard customs and practice followed in cities of Southern California.

W. S. Decker, Chief Building Inspector, commenting on the code a short time ago, said:

"The new building code adopted in Santa Ana is, in my opinion, the most comprehensive, modern, scientific, practicable and easily understood ordinance that ever has been written. It is especially designed to fit better all conditions that obtain in cities of California, and in particular cities in Southern California, than any other building code in existence.

"Santa Ana has set the precedent; Fullerton, Anaheim and other cities in Orange county undoubtedly will pass the same code within the next few weeks. Every city in California, but in particular the cities south of the Tehachapi, can follow profitably the lead established in Santa Ana by adopting this uniform building ordinance and thereby greatly facilitate design, construction and inspection practices in all cities.

"With 33 years' practical experience in building operations I heartily favor every city enacting building laws of a uniform character, patterned after the requirements set out in Santa Ana's new uniform building code."

The Santa Ana Register in an editorial comment relating to the code says:

"Santa Ana's new building code, passed by the City Trustees recently but which will not be in effect until early fall, provides for better materials in buildings and provides for more stringent inspection of structures. This ordinance was advocated and written by the builders themselves, who realize that a good structure means more business, while a poorly constructed one is a menace to the lives of people in or near it."

\* \* \*

## OCEANSIDE CODE POSTPONED

Long delayed consideration of a building code adaptable to local conditions in Oceanside, California, has again been postponed, according to report of the Oceanside Blade, which says:

"Preliminary draft of a building ordinance which has been on the stocks for many moons was again laid over. The city is awaiting the completion of a model ordinance which is being drafted in San Francisco, or some other seaport, and is now expected to be completed by October. Meantime an attempt to make a touch from the city for \$25 toward the expense of making it was given a glassy stare by the Council."

## THE INSPECTOR

## Municipal Plan Checking Privileges Often Abused

*Taxpayers Burdened Unnecessarily*

[BY MARK C. COHN]

*Expert Consultant on Housing and Building Regulations*

(This is the twenty-sixth of a series of articles on building codes.)



**B**UILDING INSPECTORS are authority for the statement that municipal facilities for examination and checking of building plans and specifications are often misused and frequently abused by a class who engage in the practice of preparing drawings and specifications for building projects without the requisite knowledge, training and experience for the performance of that highly important technical service.

To evade requirements of State laws regulating practice of architecture and professional engineering, unlicensed and uncertified designers attach appellations to their business names that thinly disguise the fact they are neither licensed architects nor competent structural engineers. These untrained persons sometimes know just enough about making plans and theory of design to be dangerous, because their finished drawings appear passably good to the uninitiated prospective building owner.

## LACK KNOWLEDGE

Quite often this class of practitioner, lacking proper knowledge, resorts to guesswork in the design of building. Perhaps fearful of their smattering of questionable knowledge and to check up guesses and theories they take advantage of privileges extended by municipal building departments. There are records of plans and specifications refiled several times before finally corrected to justify municipal okch. And each time municipal plan examination service had to be rendered the same as if it were a new project.

It is apparent the art of deceiving municipal plan examiners is practiced in devious ways. Where plans are accepted for examination and checking by municipal building inspection departments without formality of authentic application for permit, it is easy to have plans examined for corrections regarding State housing laws, building code requirements, structural inaccuracies, rules for plumbing, electric wiring and elevator installation. In these cases cities render the service free of charge, but at the expense of all taxpayers.

## MANY ABUSES

In cities where formal permit application is required to accompany plans filed, the applicant easily complies with set requirements in case the project is bona fide, pays nominal permit fee and receives the benefit of expert plan examination service at a price greatly incommensurate with services rendered.

There are still further abuses, as will be noted, in cases where the building project is of promotional nature and no permit ever issues, although the city building department functions and is put to the expense of checking plans without remuneration.

There are cases, too, where the proposed building is to be erected in cities where there are no building inspectors or where the city does not employ inspectors competent to examine efficiently and check plans. A convenient vacant lot in one of the larger cities is given as the loca-

tion for the proposed building, and again expert service and advice of a metropolitan building department is obtained free of charge.

Clyde Makutchan, municipal research engineer in Los Angeles, and formerly chief plan examiner in the Los Angeles Building Department, asserts that during a period of a few months he officially checked plans for building projects filed in that office totaling an estimated cost of \$14,000,000. Mr. Makutchan further states that of these plans building permits eventually issued for structures erected at an estimated cost of less than \$8,000,000. Here the municipal building department actually rendered expert plan examination service in checking plans and specifications for over \$6,000,000 of building projects for which the city was never paid.

It is not difficult to perceive that the privileges of this municipal bureau were greatly abused, because it is evident architectural and engineering drawings for buildings amounting to \$6,000,000 were submitted for checking to Los Angeles officials when the structures under consideration were not planned to be erected in that city, but perhaps in adjacent cities. It is reasonable to believe that in these cases the submitters desired to get an okch free of charge from the municipal plan examiners of Los Angeles, in order to insure a check structurally and for requirements of building laws.

## TO CURB BAD PRACTICE

It might not be amiss to remark that failure on the part of any licensed architect to evidence sincerity, by scrupulously avoiding any practice that puts him in the same category under discussion, shows poor judgment, because it establishes precedent for others to follow who will do so in order to save employment of professional architectural and engineering service.

John J. Backus, general manager of the Los Angeles Building and Safety Commission, and Clayton V. Welch, chief of the municipal building division, assert they have long known the engineering plan checking facilities of the building department were being misused and abused by a certain class. To curb effectively this practice they plan to devise measures to stop it without putting obstacles in the way of those who honestly seek informative data. The citations used in this article make general reference to Los Angeles, but the situation is by no means peculiar to that city. There is ample evidence to show the same practice obtains in other large cities.

## THE INSPECTOR RECOMMENDS

The Inspector urges the adoption of measures that will at once stop this needless public expense of paying for free plan examination service for those who are not entitled to it. One possible solution is for cities to pass building ordinances requiring that each plan filed be accompanied by certified check in an amount to cover fully the cost of expert plan examination plus 100 per cent additional to guarantee good faith.

If permit issues and the project is carried out in good faith, according to plans and specifications officially



## THE INSPECTOR

examined, refund may be made to the applicant minus actual cost and reasonable overhead charges for services rendered. If the project is not carried out in good faith, copy of plans and specifications shall remain permanently on file in the building department and full amount of certified check shall be forfeited to the municipality in payment for labor and services performed.

## THE INSPECTOR PLAN IS FAIR

The plan suggested here should promptly discourage misuse and abuse of building department privileges and functions. No one has any right to object to paying for requisite service actually rendered. No city has any interest from the standpoint of safety in structures that are not built. No city has any official interest in any building built outside of its territorial limits and no person has a right to obtain services of city officials by means of misrepresentation. Moreover, building laws are not designed to empower cities to establish city building departments or bureaus for plan examination and checking as commercial enterprises that compete with licensed certificated architects.

Municipal building departments are, of course, established to render service to the public. Suggestions offered here should not be confused to mean that such building inspection bureaus shall refuse fully and freely to assist applicants who honestly seek informative advice and general information about building code requirements and other building regulations. Therefore, profound care must be exercised in the administration of building laws designed to stop the abuses here discussed so that those who are entitled to the free use of municipal facilities shall not be denied that privilege.

## ANTRAM AND TOMS REAPPOINTED

William H. Antram and J. W. Toms, reappointed by Mayor George E. Cryer as members of the Los Angeles Building and Safety Commission, have been confirmed by the Municipal Council. The other three members of the Commission are Ralph Homann, Frank McGinley and C. E. Noerenberg.

## FRESNO ADOPTS SPRINKLER CODE

Automatic sprinkler systems must be installed in theatres, basements and in certain specified mercantile and industrial buildings, according to provisions of an amended ordinance reported as adopted in Fresno. The amended ordinance follows rules of the Board of Fire Underwriters' Rating Bureau.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Not long now until the annual Fire Prevention Week observance, with its customary stereotyped proclamations, and then will follow 51 weeks of non-observance by a far too great number of persons. Anyhow, one will hear a lot about what ought to be done from October 9 to 15.

## VENTURA LICENSE LAW

Ventura now licenses its building contractors by virtue of an ordinance that provides bond of \$2,000 shall be posted by contractors who undertake any job costing more than \$300.

## STATE SCHOOL LAW EFFECTIVE

California's new State act requiring that plans for schools built outside of incorporated cities must first be approved by State authorities is now effective.

## ENGINEERS ARE ENGINEERS

A long delayed but highly desirable change is announced by the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission to the effect that several positions in the city engineering department have been changed from "engineer" to "operator." These positions have nothing to do with technical engineering work, but were for positions such as operators of pile drivers, hoists, tugboats, etc. Engineers will acclaim this salutary recognition of difference between professional engineers and others who perhaps are enginemen.

## GLENDALE LENIENCY AMENDMENT

More lenient requirements for small structures and minor deviations from building code are comprehended in an amended ordinance reported to have been adopted in Glendale. Petitions presented to the City Council for petty deviations from building ordinances not involving menace, usually granted by the city dads, would be granted by the Building Inspector under the amended enactment.

## L. A. STEEL JOIST CODE

An amended ordinance being considered by the Los Angeles City Council and already approved by the Municipal Building and Safety Commission would allow poured gypsum slabs and so-called armored-gypsum fireproofing for fire protection to steel joist construction and for fireproofing structural steel members. Several amendments relating to steel joist construction are also included in the proposed ordinance.

## L. A. HEATING CODE EFFECTIVE

An amended ordinance in Los Angeles relating to installation of all types of warm-air heating furnaces, connections thereto, appurtenances and appliances and regulating construction of vents and furnace rooms is now effective. Permits for installing furnaces are required under the amended ordinance and plans therefor must first be submitted to and receive approval of the municipal authorities.

## S. F. GAS PIPE INSPECTOR

About the only large city in California that depends on its gas company to inspect gas piping, San Francisco, in all probability will soon change this outworn system and enact an ordinance regulating the installation of gas piping and providing for inspection under jurisdiction of municipal authorities.

## ABERDEEN BUILDING CODE

Nearing completion is the reported progress of the local building code being prepared in Aberdeen, Washington. The proposed code is reported as being especially adaptable to lumber and seaport towns and to adhere to recommendations of the Washington State Chamber of Commerce.

## L. A. COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Probable establishment of a Los Angeles county building inspection bureau is foreseen in reported action of the county counsel, who is reported to be preparing a set of building regulations to apply to structures erected within that county but outside of incorporated cities and towns which have local building ordinances.

## THE INSPECTOR

### Ask THE INSPECTOR

*Under this heading are published questions and answers dealing with building problems. Herewith are published a number of queries asked of The Inspector and the answers. Pop the question. Your name will be omitted if you wish.*

### Tell THE INSPECTOR

*This column is dedicated to kicks and comments. Names omitted on request. Right is reserved to publish or reject any complaints received. Give name and address in evidence of good faith. This department is open for constructive criticisms.*

#### NO CHANGE IN STATE HOUSING LAW

*Q. Did the Governor recently sign a bill which amends the California State Housing Act?*

A. We could answer this question, which has been asked by many who apparently have been misinformed through publication of erroneous statements, that, when an item appears in The Inspector, disregard everything to the contrary.

We won't do this, however, because we, too, are mere humans, fallible and liable to err. The fact is that no bill has been signed by the Governor which in any way amends or changes the State Housing Act of California in its requirements as they have stood for more than two years.

In an article published exclusively in the June issue of The Inspector it was pointed out a bill designed to amend the act under discussion was passed by the California Legislature, later found to be incorrectly drawn and defective, and, consequently, refused approval by the Governor.

Moreover, with that article there was published exclusively a personal letter from Governor C. C. Young wherein he stated there was no possibility of the bill in question becoming a law, and setting forth his reasons therefor.

The California State Housing Act remains exactly as passed in 1923, with minor amendments enacted in 1925.

\* \* \*

#### WHEN IS BRICK?

Pigs is pigs, but brick is brick only when it is brick.

Centuries old, used the world over, and yet in this enlightened age—age of bootleggers and synthetic products—it has become necessary to protect the name of the poor common brick against being besmirched, and perhaps more particularly in order that the public shall get brick when it wants brick.

It is reported the American Society for Testing Materials has accepted a report to be "published as information and for comment and criticism" which includes the following:

"Brick—A structural unit formed while plastic into a rectangular prism, usually solid and 8 by 3¾ by 2¼ inches in size.

"Note—The term 'brick' is understood to mean a unit of burned clay or shale. When other substances are used, such as lime and sand, cement and sand, fire clay, adobe, etc., the term 'brick' should be suitably qualified."

\* \* \*

Uniform building regulations were discussed at group meetings of building contractors and inspectors of building, held in Seattle and Oakland last month.

\* \* \*

San Jacinto, California, created three separate fire zones to regulate building by an amended ordinance now effective.

\* \* \*

Torrance, California, is considering an amended building code to provide for masonry construction in fire zones.

#### LONG BEACH OFFICIAL SHAKE-UP

With well-sharpened axes the new city administration recently inaugurated in Long Beach is reported to have chopped off official heads in neat fashion. More are said to be due to fall.

Among other changes reported in personnel of governmental heads is the appointment of Henry S. Callahan, former Councilman, who succeeds Charles S. Henderson as City Manager.

Arthur H. Adams, formerly Assistant Engineer, promoted to the office of City Engineer, succeeds R. D. Van Alstine. It is rumored the Municipal Art Commission probably will be abolished.

Charles D. Wailes, Jr., structural engineer in the Building Department, temporarily heads that department.

\* \* \*

#### NEW L. A. PLUMBING CODE OKEHEH

With the signature of Mayor George E. Cryer attached to the new plumbing ordinance in Los Angeles, a big piece of constructive work has been finished. The new plumbing ordinance should have a salutary effect for the promotion of better plumbing work. The new code coordinates several regulations for plumbing, gas piping and house sewer installations which heretofore have been scattered through numerous enactments. The new code also provides for qualifications of journeymen and master plumbers and establishes the Board of Municipal Building and Safety Commissioners as the Board of Plumbing Examiners.

\* \* \*

#### SAN DIEGO PLANS NEW CODE

Oscar G. Knecht reports progress in the preparation of a new ordinance designed to license and bond roofing contractors, and a companion ordinance to regulate roof coverings in San Diego. Another code to license and bond building contractors is also reported in the making. Mr. Knecht states this latter ordinance will define building contractors as those who engage in that business, so as to avoid causing inconvenience or annoyance to building owners who may wish to employ a workman to do minor jobs or make repairs. Workmen doing these minor jobs and not actually engaging in the business of building contractors will not be governed by the license ordinance.

\* \* \*

#### COUNTY FATHERS DEFY CITY DADS

Contending that court rulings give them the right to proceed with building independent of city authorities, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors apparently has decided to challenge the authority of city officials. It is reported that a hospital of semi-fireproof construction will be reared, regardless of building ordinance requirements for fireproof hospital structure. The building in question is to be built within the territorial limits of the city of Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

#### HAWTHORNE STRENGTHENS ITS CODE

Only buildings of masonry materials with fire-retardant roof covering in certain zones are to be permitted in Hawthorne, California. Amendments to building ordinance have been adopted.





THE Clarke Library, Los Angeles, is today one of the finest examples of brickwork on the Pacific Coast. The walls are laid with selected Old Rose Face Brick suggesting the refined, but colorful masterpieces found in old Italy. Robert D. Farquhar, Architect.  
T. C. Marlowe, Builder.

FACE BRICK *from the lists of*  
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*Entrance Detail, Mission High School, San Francisco.*

*John Reid, Jr., Architect*

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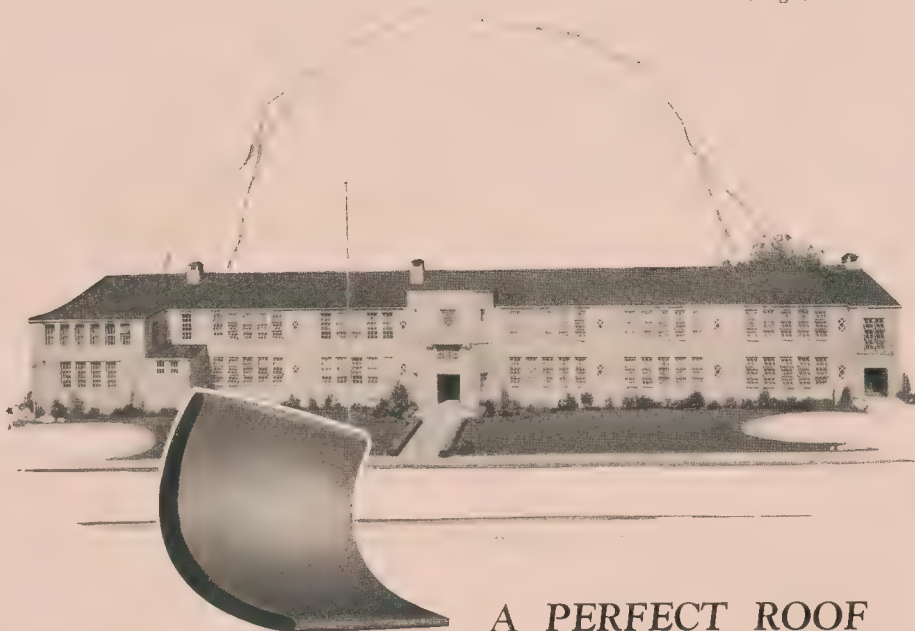
Seattle: 1500 1st Avenue, South  
Portland: 454 Everett Street



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# SIMONS SORRENTO TILE

## THE HOUSING OF LIBRARIES

[Concluded from page 10]

rooms, large and small, totally surrounding the stack. The book-stack space is large enough to hold four times the number of books now owned, with supports strong enough to carry two more stories, and space for one story to be placed on a lower level. Its lighting is through "factory" skylights instead of the usual long vertical slits, and is most satisfactory.

To return to the exterior; what could be more ideal than this entrance court, with its richness and its simplicity—its warmth of light, its coolness of shadow—its stretches of paving and planting—its tall palm trees (almost theatrical in the effectiveness of their setting)—its mellow coloring—its atmosphere of "dolce far niente"?

Southern California has many examples of Mr. Hunt's genius, but it is quite safe to say that none will constitute a more enduring monument than the Pasadena Library. However, it seems especially fitting at this time to refer to the library he designed some few years ago for Henry E. Huntington, now dedicated to the public; this lovely classical building, wonderfully landscaped, is a gem in which it would be hard to pick a flaw.

The little branch library in Pasadena by Marston, Van Pelt and Maybury is also a most delightful bit of composition, and expressive of its purpose.

\* \* \*

### IN THE PROFESSION

Marston, Van Pelt and Maybury, architects, announce the dissolution of their firm. Mr. Garrett Van Pelt, Jr., will open offices at 16 South Oakland avenue, Pasadena. Mr. Sylvanus B. Marston and Mr. Edgar W. Maybury will practice under the firm name of Marston and Maybury, retaining the present offices at 25 South Euclid avenue, Pasadena, and 402 Union Oil Building, Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

Hammond W. Whitsitt, A. I. A., announces the opening of his office in the John D. Spreckels Building, Los Angeles, for the practice of architecture. He formerly practiced in Moline, Illinois.

\* \* \*

W. H. Weeks, architect, has prepared plans and specifications for a new apartment-hotel building to cost approximately \$500,000, to be built in Oakland, overlooking Lake Merritt.

\* \* \*

Leonard Schultze and S. Fullerton Weaver announce the reopening of their Los Angeles office in the Subway Terminal building, under the direction of E. T. Heitschmidt.

\* \* \*

Koerner and Gage announce the removal of their architectural and construction offices to Beverly Hills, California.

\* \* \*

Palmer Sabin, architect, has established offices at 1008 West Sixth street, Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

Luther Fentress, architect, has removed his studio to 1223 Sherwood street, San Marino, California.

Garden Court Apartments, Hollywood. Designed and Built by Frank Meline Company, Los Angeles

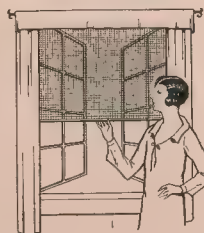


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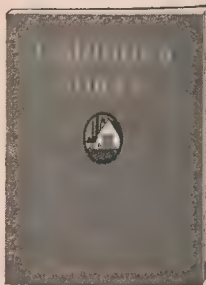
ADDRESS.....





MYRON HUNT AND H. C. CHAMBERS, ARCHITECTS

*CALIFORNIA STUCCO*, color No. 135 in a float texture was used as the finish for the walls of Pasadena's beautiful new Library Building. This color is a light creamy buff ...very pleasing and suitable for buildings of this type. ¶ Complete instructions for producing this texture and other textures are given in a new book on California Stucco.



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California  
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C O L O R E V E R L A S T I N G



# THE FRESCO WILL LIVE AGAIN

[Continued from page 41]

motif, and for many hundreds of years architecture has dealt mainly in plain, flat surfaces in buildings for residential, commercial or public purposes. Yet, in America, we have not revived to any extent fresco painting—a mode of decoration eminently suited to flat wall surfaces. Perhaps there was undeveloped among us an architecture whose spirit was in keeping with the spirit and atmosphere of those countries which developed the rich traditions of fresco painting. Possibly our fashions in wall finishes and textures may have made the fresco seem alien and strange. These objections, however, are largely removed in the extensive adaptation America, and Western America in particular, are making today of the architecture of Southern Europe, and the prevailing fashion of having rough plaster or stucco walls in both homes and business buildings. Every factor, therefore, is now favorable to a rebirth among us of the old, old art of fresco painting.

But no art can be reborn unless there also exists someone with the vision and ability to further it, and in this respect the Western architectural profession is fortunate in having in its midst Simeon Pelenc of San Francisco. Pelenc is a member of the French National Art Academy, and brings to this mission of giving rebirth to the fresco a sound art training and experience, a close familiarity with the whole history of the art, and a thorough understanding of the chemical and mechanical factors involved in painting frescoes.

This artist in the few years he has been among us has executed some notably fine pieces of work in homes and commercial structures. Typical of his creations, we show here, among several other things, a panel in the San Francisco display room of the California Stucco Company. This panel, we believe, possesses exceptional merit in that it makes exposition of the fundamentals found in world-famous examples of good frescoes.

The design is flat, and Pelenc lays emphasis upon maintaining this technique in the art. There are frescoes whose figures and designs are worked out in regular perspective, but they are basically faulty, because perspective, in this case, is an irrelevant element at cross purposes with the nature of the surface. Fresco is painted upon plaster walls while they are still damp. The design and whole composition become an integral unit of the wall—as much a part of the plaster as its lime and sand. We look at or along the walls and their frescoes, and the injection of perspective into the scheme breaks the harmony and simplicity of the flat, plain surfaces. In other words, perspective is permissible, is necessary, where painting is done upon something that is hung on the wall. But where the painting is directly upon the wall itself, only the flat technique serves the complete harmony of the work and surface of which it is a part.

We perceive also from the panel that Pelenc is a master of this type of design. His work has strength, rhythm and grace. The colors are well chosen; the values well blended and harmonized; and such is the skill with which they have been applied that the beauty and harmony of the whole increases as we withdraw from the wall.

At this point we must make mention of the sister art to fresco painting, which is sgraffito. The name comes from the Italian, and means "scratched." Sgraffito traces its origin back to the time when primitive man scratched and chipped pictures upon the walls of his cave home. It is still an art executed by scratching, for the design is scratched out of unset and moist plaster. A base is laid of dark-colored plaster, over which is laid a lighter-toned plaster. When the latter takes its initial set, the design is transferred and the parts desired cut out with a knife or

## LIGHTING IS A PART OF ARCHITECTURE



*(Brentwood Country Club,  
Los Angeles  
W. W. Ache, Architect  
Howard Verbeck, Decorator)*



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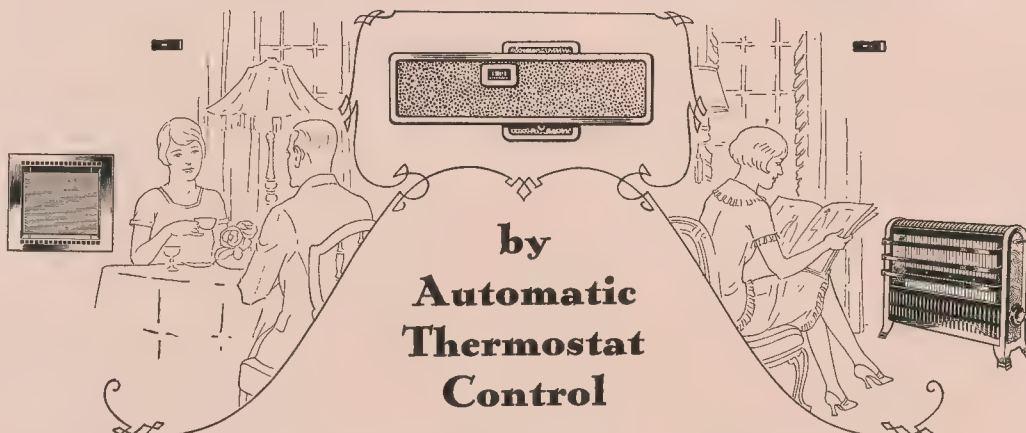
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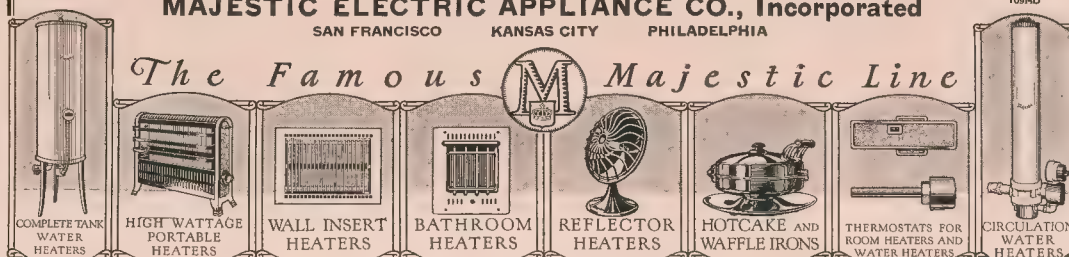
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Poultry Producers of Central Cal.	-	-	Petaluma	New Lodi City Hall	-	-	Lodi
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other instrument. The contrast between the two tones forms the design. When the plaster completely hardens, the design, like fresco painting, is part of the wall, and the rule of flat technique holds here also.

The permanency of these two classes of work is in keeping with the permanency of the major works of American architecture today. Our mighty structures of steel and stone may reasonably be expected to stand for many generations, and it seems only logical that we should give wider utilization to these two modes of decoration, whose beauty will be undimmed as long as the walls upon which they are put remain intact. This permanency holds true of both interior and exterior work. The colors of fresco painting penetrate into the undried plaster, which in drying forms a crystalline, marble-like surface. Neither sun, wind, rain or water has the slightest effect upon the life and brilliancy of the colors, and the granite-like plaster surface is proof against scratching except under extreme pressure. Indeed, the frescoes of Pompeii and ancient Egypt are as bright and gay as the day they were painted.

The uses to which these two modes of decoration may be put are too numerous to permit of anything more than mere suggestion in this paper. Designs in fresco for exteriors or interiors for homes, public or business buildings may be large; may be small; simple, or elaborate; and themes in color and design are limited only by the imagination of artist and architect. The same is true of sgraffitto, for the combinations in plaster tones available today are various and lovely in their richness.

Consequently, we have only to look about us to perceive that in our homes are coldly bare plaster and stucco walls, blank spaces above fireplaces, awkward panels, exterior doorways of unpleasant stiffness. In our churches, schools, libraries, banks and other business places the same conditions prevail. We have achieved very well a feeling for the dignity, simplicity and strength of space. But we have not as yet learned all the lessons of preserving the sacredness of this space, yet giving it the life, expressiveness, emotional and imaginative suggestiveness of finely wrought design and well-harmonized color.

In fresco and sgraffitto we have arts that lend themselves to these ends as perhaps nothing else does. We have mastered and have an intelligent consciousness of the lessons and value of space. The opportunity is at hand for its permanent decoration. This is our next step—a phase in which an ancient art will find new birth in a new land, among a new people and their culture.

\* \* \*

#### A NEW PARTNERSHIP

Mr. Earle B. Bertz announces that his architectural practice will be continued under the name of Bertz, Winter and Maury, a partnership consisting of Earle B. Bertz, Albert H. Winter and Charles F. Maury. The firm will maintain offices in the Shreve Building, San Francisco. The many friends of these gentlemen will be glad to hear of this new partnership, which will no doubt become one of the representative firms of San Francisco.

\* \* \*

Reforestation of timber lands in western Oregon and Washington is a relatively simple and inexpensive process, the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture has concluded as a result of a study of logging conditions in that district, a report on which has just been issued as the second of a series on practices to perpetuate forest growth.

\* \* \*

American Institute of Steel Construction will convene October 25-29 at Pinchurst, N. C.

\* \* \*

Genfire Steel Company is the new name of the General Fireproofing Building Products of Youngstown, Ohio.

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WRITE FOR YOUR COPY OF "PAINT MILEAGE"

## LOWERING INSURANCE COSTS

*By the Insurance Counselor*

[Similar articles on this vital subject will appear in coming issues.]

Architects have it in their power to exercise an important influence on the burning ratio and fire insurance losses and rates by specifying certain safeguards that have been shown by experience to have a fire-retardent tendency.

Among these safeguards might be mentioned fire doors in factories and similar occupancies. The value of fire doors is shown by a fire that occurred several months ago in the plant of the United States Products Corporation at San Jose, California. The plant consisted of two buildings, a "C" class warehouse of tile construction with composition roof, approximately 60 by 60 feet. Adjoining and exposing this plant with two openings was a frame cannery building approximately 50 by 100 feet. This building was of frame construction with an asbestos roof. When the frame cannery was burned, the warehouse was saved by double standard fire doors which the engineering department of a large fire insurance company had insisted should be installed to close the openings between the cannery and warehouse. Although the fire doors were warped and twisted by the heat, the fire did not penetrate through the interior. The loss on the cannery, including building and equipment, was about \$100,000. The warehouse with contents was valued at approximately \$290,000. The installation of the double fire doors covering the two openings referred to cost less than \$1,000 and undoubtedly saved the warehouse and contents valued at \$290,000. It is significant that the fire doors exposed to the cannery blaze were burned through and that the inner doors stopped the fire, showing that a slight difference in the cost between single and double fire doors in this case was an excellent investment. It is a safe rule to insist on double standard fire doors when a portion of the plant is of "B" or "C" class construction and exposed by a frame building.

### VAULT DOORS

Tests have shown that unprotected steel loses approximately 70 per cent of its strength at 1000° F., a low temperature in a fire of even moderate severity. The result is that the outer door of the ordinary vault often warps and sags, permitting the flames to reach the valuable contents of the vault.

The U. S. Geological Survey report on the San Francisco fire and earthquake of 1906 contains the following comment on the facilities then in use for the protection of valuable records:

"To all external appearances, no doubt, the vaults looked like secure places in which to keep valuables; as a matter of fact, they were the flimsiest kind of shells, not capable of resisting any sort of determined attack from either fire or burglars. The tenant would have been better off without the vault, for in that case he probably would have carried his papers to some other point where they would have had a better chance to escape the fire."

A report of the committee on protection of records of the National Fire Protection Association lays down requirements for vault doors classified for the length of time that they are designed to withstand fire and the Underwriters Laboratories have been making hundreds of scientific tests of the fire-resistive qualities of various kinds of materials used in vault construction and all of this data may be obtained by any reputable architect or builder.

Fire-resistive construction, automatic sprinklers, inclosure of vertical openings, correction of hazards and elimination of combustible materials are vital factors in the reduction or removal of internal exposure.

### SPRINKLER EQUIPMENT

A fire in the A. G. Pollard Company department store at



ST. CHARLES PARISH BUILDINGS  
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Lowell, Massachusetts, burned an entire block in the heart of the city with a loss of \$1,500,000. The chief of the fire department declared that the fire would not have been so disastrous if the Pollard Company had followed his suggestion to equip the store with automatic sprinklers. The State fire marshal of Massachusetts had also recommended sprinklers.

GARAGE SAVED BY SPRINKLERS

Caused probably by a short circuit in an automobile, fire burned a small inclosed car in a garage at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and slightly damaged another car only a few feet away. The heat thus generated opened two sprinkler heads and extinguished the blaze. Nothing was known of the fire until the day-man arrived at seven in the morning. On the night of the fire the garage contained nearly 100 cars valued at about \$128,000. The garage building is valued at approximately \$50,000, making a total of \$178,000, which undoubtedly was saved by the investment of a few thousand dollars in sprinkler equipment.

\* \* \*

FIFTY YEARS OF FINE CRAFTSMANSHIP

The town of Santa Clara's major industry is that of the Pacific Manufacturing Company, pioneer manufacturers of custom millwork. It is a concern, with its beginnings in the late seventies. In all the years since its products have been specified by architects and contractors identified with some of the outstanding big building projects of the Pacific Coast. In recent years the Pacific Manufacturing Co. has supplied the interior millwork for such buildings as Palace Hotel, St. Francis Hotel, Del Monte Hotel, Telephone Building, Balfour Guthrie Building, Southern Pacific Building, Hobart Building, Commercial Union Building, Hunter-Dulin Building and others.

The plant had a rather romantic beginning. Its founder was the late J. P. Pierce, one of the original '49ers, who bought out the claims of a distracted prospector. Soon after, a harvest of gold was gathered and with a part of his profits Mr. Pierce bought an immense forest area in the Santa Cruz Mountains, which was subsequently developed.

To profitably use a portion of the timber wealth in his holdings, Mr. Pierce, in 1875, established a mill at Santa Clara to manufacture windmills and caskets. The business grew rapidly, and a few years later a department of general millwork was added and that has been the main business ever since. Pacific Manufacturing Co. products have found their way to all parts of the globe.

The business is still controlled by members of the Pierce family. A son of this founder, James H. Pierce, is president. A grandson, J. Lester Pierce, is vice-president and general manager. Between 400 and 500 men are employed in the Santa Clara plant the year around.

The most recent addition to the company's activities is the formation of a subsidiary, the Reinhold Partition Corporation, which makes and markets the Reinhold interchangeable wood and glass office partition. This is distinguished by a number of outstanding features, among them, conduiting to permit inclosed wiring, lacquer finish, and a quality appearance throughout. The partition was recently exhibited at the Detroit Convention of the National Association of Building Owners and Managers and there won high recognition. The company's announcements are now appearing in Pacific Coast Architect.

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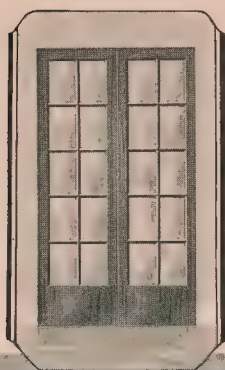
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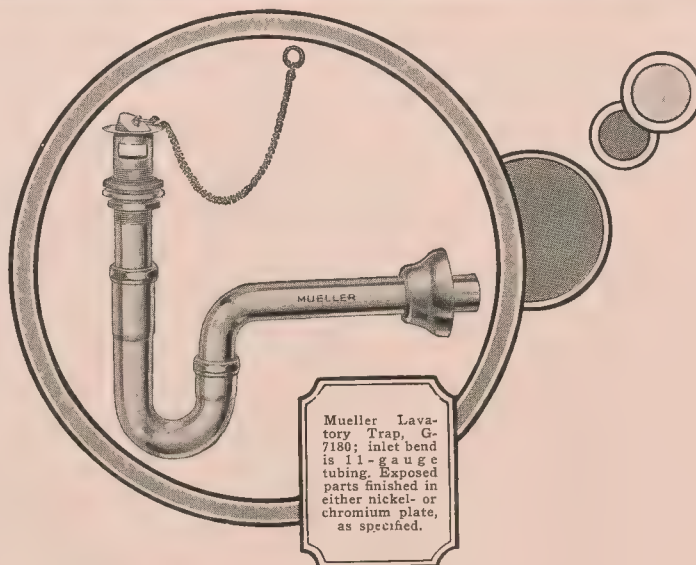
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### NEW FIELD IN WOOD UTILIZATION

What promises to open up a new field in wood utilization is the end-matching system applied to softwood, according to a report just issued by the National Committee on Wood Utilization of the Department of Commerce.

Heretofore the end-matching principle, which means providing one end of a piece of lumber with a tongue and the other end with a groove, has only been applied to hardwood flooring. The committee now advocates the extension of this system to a number of softwood items, particularly for covering purposes, and inasmuch as we are using six times more softwood than hardwood, it can easily be seen that this innovation in lumber utilization will be of the greatest importance.

In the report sponsored by a special subcommittee organized for the purpose of investigating the uses of end-matched lumber and composed of leading architects, engineers, builders and lumbermen it is stated that end-matched softwood lumber will find its greatest application in building and construction for such purposes as flooring, sheathing, ceiling, siding, etc., but there are also many industrial outlets such as elevator construction, conveyors, car construction, large packing boxes, and a number of other purposes where a smooth joined surface is needed. The use of end-matched lumber represents a considerable economy to the consumer because it can be installed by anyone who can wield a hammer. It permits one hundred per cent utilization of the lumber because it is applied just like a ribbon cut off at the end, and the cut-off part used in starting the next tier. The consumer is also independent of length specifications, since any length from 1 or 2 feet and up can be used. The material has sufficient strength to permit the joints to occur between studs or supports for all ordinary purposes. End-matched lumber therefore enables utilization of short lengths (stock less than 8 feet) which heretofore has been considered as nonsalable in most instances. According to Mr. Axel H. Oxholm, director of the committee, this is the second project of a series which has for its object a closer utilization of our timber resources. It is obvious that a continued liberal supply of wood, now used as the principal raw material by more than forty per cent of the American industries, is dependent on the closest possible utilization because reforestation on a commercial scale will never be an economic success unless the mills can produce and market a sufficient quantity of forest products from each tree to make investment in reforestation profitable. The end-matching of lumber is therefore a considerable step in the direction of a greater utilization of timber, a matter which is truly of national importance.

The National Committee on Wood Utilization was organized by order of President Coolidge, and has for its chairman Secretary Hoover.

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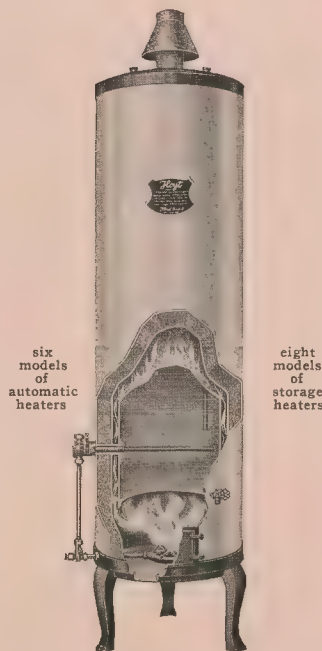
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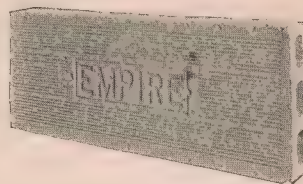
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### CITY BUILDING IN THE NEW BUSINESS ERA\*

City planning and building is rapidly erasing the imaginary corporate boundaries. The region, whether it be for a few miles around each small community or 50 or 60 miles around a metropolitan city, is now the unit for planning instead of the city itself.

Almost overnight have sprung up a number of regional planning bodies which are solving many of the planning problems in the great metropolitan centers throughout the United States. In the region of Chicago a different science from the usual city planning scheme is being evolved and in two years has operated most successfully.

Here the regional planners have forecast, first, the expected population in all parts of the region as far ahead as 1950; next, they have brought together the Federal, State, county, city and village highway authorities to perfect a master highway and street plan which is being designed scientifically to care for the expected population.

Discovering that the amount of business property in use is directly in proportion to the population, the standard of fifty front feet of business property per 100 people has been adopted by subdividers and by zoning authorities to prevent the excess platting of retail business property and to keep it in relation to the expected population.

Park areas are being located and playground areas designed in the right location for the expected population. These general facts have been assembled by the Regional Planning Association and are being made available to every community as they fit their individual plans together into a master regional plan.

\*From an address by Robert Kingery, secretary and assistant treasurer, Chicago Regional Planning Association, at Fifteenth Annual Meeting, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Washington, D. C.



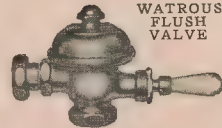
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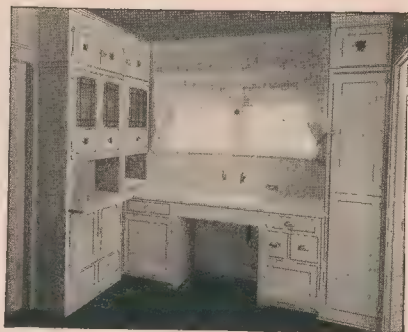


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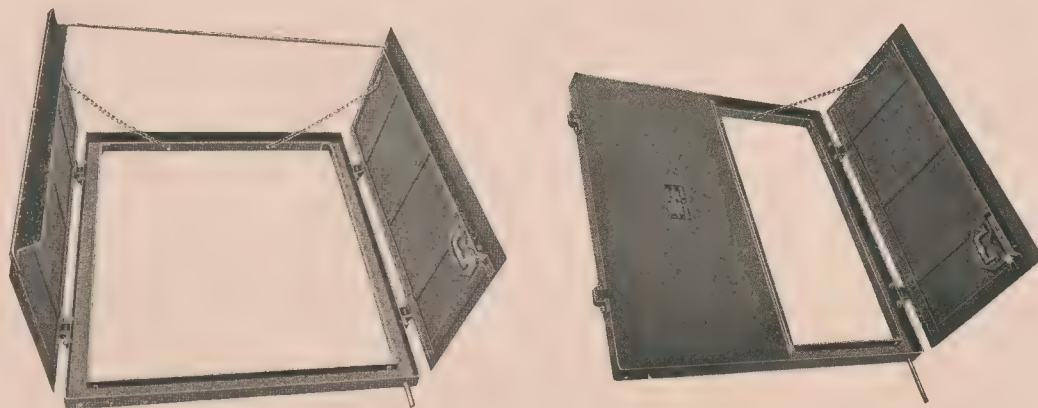
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VOLUME XXXII · SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES · SEPTEMBER 1927 · NUMBER THREE

## ADVENTURES IN ARCHITECTURE

[BY HARRIS ALLEN, A. I. A.]



UST three years ago, there were reviewed in this journal a number of buildings designed by Wallace Neff. Among other comments (and I shall take occasion to quote several) was the prophecy that his future development would be well worth watching. In the light of Mr. Neff's extraordinary vogue—one can call it nothing less—since that time, it is interesting to examine his recent work and note to what extent that development has progressed.

As was certainly to be expected, he has succeeded in establishing a distinctive style of his own; so that people exclaim "There is another Neff house" as they drive by. The layman doubtless attributes many houses wrongfully to Mr. Neff, for some of his characteristic features have been seized upon and reproduced with a frequency that is somewhat disconcerting; if flattering. (Many of these inspired adaptations are really very pleasing.)

In spite of this definite individuality which is now impressed upon his work, the "original and imaginative designing power" which was evident in those days has not become dulled. True, a few particularly Neffish features are constantly repeated with slight changes of detail—but in all probability these were insisted on by the client, indeed, may well have occasioned his engagement as architect. But his creative imagination is still very much in evidence. It is sometimes a little too much in evidence. Perhaps I should qualify this by saying, too much for the conservative, the student of tradition, the advocate of restraint and subtlety—all of which characteristics are supposed to form part of the equipment of the conventional critic.

This original, picturesque power of Mr. Neff's imaginative faculty is felt in every one of his designs, and his more definite control of it is a sign that he is becoming more mature. Three years ordinarily do not affect a young man materially; but three years of such intense activity as has been the case here, have some such effect as that of a greenhouse on a young and strong plant. It is rather wonderful that he should have accomplished so much (the buildings shown

herewith form perhaps a twentieth, or less, of the work he has turned out) without some definite failures in design, through sheer lack of time for study.

To quote from our previous article: "He has imbued his compositions with a freeness, a variety of element, an irregular balance, which is all very delightful . . . He paints from a bold palette . . . Here is no delicate stylist who refines detail . . . nor yet an impressionist who is vague and poetic . . . rather, a vivid realist who paints with strong shadows and bold form and rich color . . . what stunning stage settings some of these would make! . . . 'picture' quality to a surprising degree . . . the virile atmosphere which is characteristic of all Mr. Neff's work . . ."

Now, this is all quite as true today, and it is one of the pleasantest things a critic ever finds to do, to realize that his enthusiasm was not ill-founded and that he can praise the developing powers of an artist just as whole-heartedly as he did the promise of a budding talent. And let us remember, that Mr. Neff is still a young man, and that he is still experimenting with form and shadow, acquiring an ever richer experience, an ever surer mastery of proportion and profile and balance. This may be called a "progress report"; and I repeat, his future will be well worth watching.

\* \* \*

### ARCHITECTURAL POSITIONS OPEN

To fill permanently positions in the office of the County Architect, the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission, headquartered in the Hall of Records, will hold examinations for positions listed here on the following dates:

Assistant architect, salary \$300 to \$350 a month, October 5; senior architectural draftsman, salary \$250 to \$275 a month, October 14; architectural draftsman, salary \$210 to \$230 a month, September 23; and for similar position, salary \$175 to \$190 a month, September 30.

Examination for junior architectural draftsman, salary \$130 to \$140 a month, will be held October 7; student architectural draftsman, \$100 to \$110 a month, September 19; electrical draftsman, \$225 to \$250 a month, October 28; plumbing draftsman, \$225 to \$250, October 21.

\* \* \*

The new Russ Building, San Francisco, which was officially opened September first, will be pictorially presented to the readers of PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT in the October number.





CALIFORNIA SECURITY LOAN CORPORATION BUILDING, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

Photo by F. A. Smith



INTERIOR, CALIFORNIA SECURITY LOAN CORPORATION BUILDING, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT  
*Photo by Padilla Co.*





INTERIOR, CALIFORNIA SECURITY LOAN CORPORATION BUILDING, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE N. [unclear], ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*



ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH, ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*





ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH, ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photos by Padilla Co.*



RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. COLLAGE WALL, ARCHITECT  
*Photo by Padilla Co.*





TERRACE ENTRANCE, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

Photograph by Wallace Neff



TERRACE, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA.

*(Photo by J. J. ...)*





MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT  
Photo by Padilla Co.



TERRACE HOTEL. RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT.  
Photo by Padilla Co.





TERRACE WALL, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*



FOUNTAIN, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

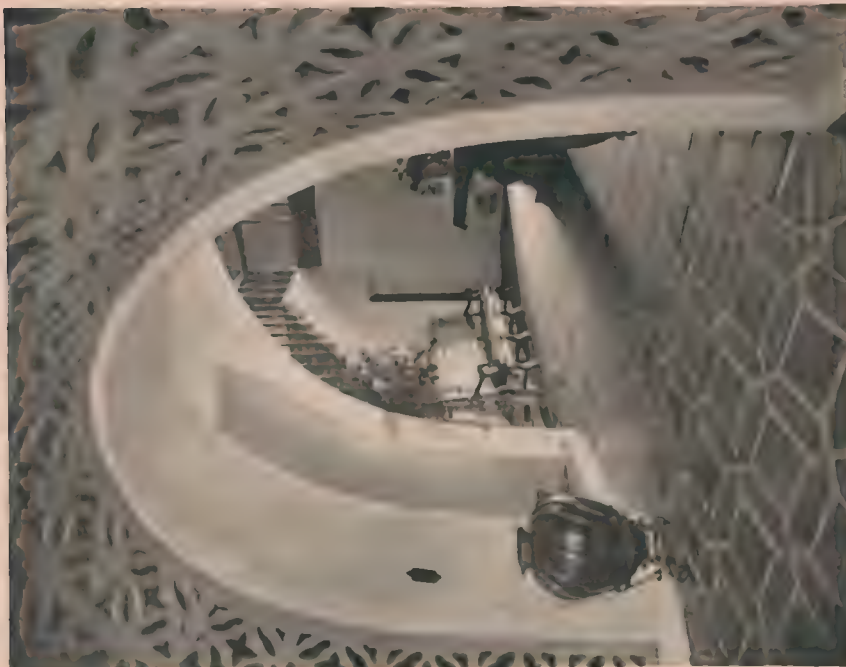
*Photo by Padilla Co.*





LIVING ROOM, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*



HALL, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. FRED C. THOMSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photos by Padilla Co.*





*Photos by Padilla Co.*

RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. NORMAN CHANDLER, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT



RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. E. L. PETITFILS, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photos by Padilla Co.*





ENTRANCE, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. E. L. PETITFILS, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*



LIBRARY, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. E. L. PETITFILS, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*





HALL, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. J. C. ANDERSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT



RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. J. C. ANDERSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT





ABOVE—LIVING ROOM TERRACE; BELOW—LOGGIA; RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. J. C. ANDERSON,  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT



ABOVE—GARAGE; BELOW—EXTERIOR DETAIL; RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. J. C. ANDERSON,  
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT





LIVING ROOM, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. J. C. ANDERSON, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF ARCHITECT



LIVING ROOM, RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN S. VAVRA, BEL AIR, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Keystone Photo Service*



*Residence of B. W. Cadwallader  
674 S. June Street, Los Angeles*

*L. G. Scherer & Co., Architects Charles Snyder, Contractor  
J. A. Drummond, Roofing Contractor*



## A Roof of Beauty EVERLASTING

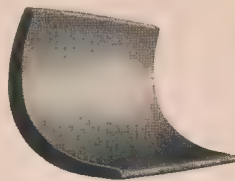
BEAUTY, SHAPE AND COLOR are vitally important in roofing tile—and Simons Roofing Tiles have these qualities in full measure. But Simons Tile is preferred by so many architects because in its manufacture we have never sacrificed strength for beauty, or compromised utility for shape, or conceded texture for color, and we never will.

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RESIDENCE OF MRS. CHARLOTTE PICKFORD, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
WALLACE NEFF, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Padilla Co.*





*Burt L. Davis House, Crescent Park, Palo Alto, Calif.*

*R. W. Follmer, Contractor*

*Chas. K. Summer, Architect*

## *Ramona Roof Tile*

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**A**N INTERESTING ROOF recently laid by this company is that on the residence shown above. The tile is graded from light salmon shades at the eaves to the very dark browns at the ridge. The tile are copper wired in place with moderate irregularity both horizontally and vertically and all cement used is white. It is an excellent example of skillful workmanship both in blending and laying.

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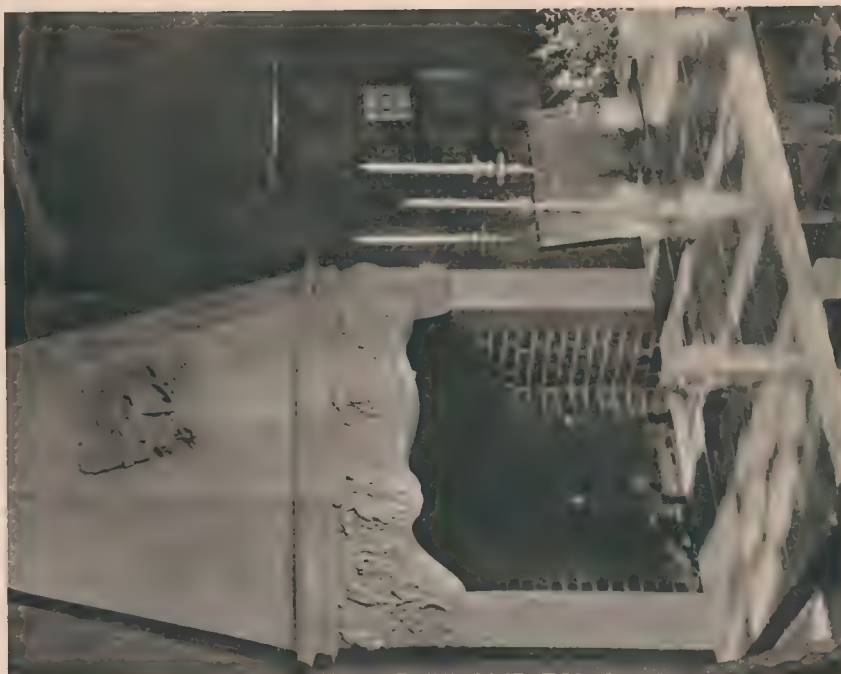
Main Office: 116 Natoma Street, San Francisco. Phone: Kearny 2830

Works: West Alameda, California



RESIDENCE OF DR. FRANCIS J. CONLAN, PEBBLE BEACH, CALIFORNIA  
W. H. TOEPKE, ARCHITECT





LEFT—DINING ROOM, HOUSE OF W. C. VAN ANTWERP, BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA. BAKEWELL AND BROWN, ARCHITECTS  
RIGHT—LIVING ROOM, HOUSE OF DIGBY BROOKS, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. HENRY H. GUTTERSON, ARCHITECT

# INTERIOR DECORATING

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE FIREPLACE

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]



PEAKING from the romantic angle, there is little that can be said about the fireplace that has not been said before. Poets, writers, statesmen and the makers of songs have made it the symbol of all the wholesome virtues of home and family life. Disaster comes swiftly to the nation which abandons its fire-sides for the pursuit of frothy pleasures of doubtful value. But social soundness, individual and collective strength abides with the people who find their greatest joys upon the family hearthstone.

We have only to look upon some of the degenerate and misfit fireplaces about us to perceive that this philosophy of the hearthstone is not far-fetched. We may well cry, "O tempora! O mores!" when we see some of the graceless substitutes for fireplaces that are found in many homes, or when we see fireplaces good enough in themselves placed in rooms with which they have no artistic, symbolical or emotional relationship. But the lowest level of degeneracy is reached when we go into a house where the hearthstone has never had a fire kindled upon it because it will dirty "the nice new bricks," or where some unholy mechanical device is installed which gives a ghastly imitation of flames. Who, indeed, can be condemned for seeking solace and diversion outside of the home in such cases?

Happily, the collection of fireplaces shown here, while it may not be perfect and complete, escapes the stigma of artificiality and substitution. The collection, at least,



Library, Women's City Club, San Francisco  
Bliss and Faville, Architects



Tile Mantel, Studio of Eri H. Richardson  
San Francisco

may serve to convey something of the fine dignity; the sort of lordly graciousness only a fireplace can achieve in the hands of one who realizes its place in the limitations and possibilities of a room, in contrast to the forlorn, ungainly, alien result of the builder who puts in fireplaces for the mere sake of putting them in.

Factors that contribute largely to the complete success of the fireplace are those which have to do with its mechanical construction. No fireplace, however outwardly pleasing in design, can grow old gracefully unless its inner mechanism functions smoothly. Fortunately the engineering problems involved in fireplace construction are greatly simplified and safely standardized in the several very excellent makes of dampers and fireplace forms now on the market.

These forms and dampers are made in a wide range of sizes. Each size has its proportions carefully gauged to assure the maximum of heat being thrown into the room, rather than allowing it to escape up the chimney. The design of these mechanical units embodies features that facilitate easy drawing and the carrying off of smoke and gases. Finally, they are so sized and constructed that the chimney builder in putting them in place is compelled to lay the masonry so that the height and depth of the fireplace, the opening of the chimney throat, the curve of the fireback and pitch of the chimney sides are all correctly adjusted to assure satisfactory functioning of the fireplace under all conditions of fuel, atmosphere and temperature.

These mechanical features having been thus simply dis-

[Concluded on page 53]





Above, left—Living Room, Residence of Mr. O. J. Barwick, Los Angeles. Henry F. Withey, Architect  
 Above, right—Living Room, Residence of Dr. W. H. McCabe, Oakland Harris Allen, Architect  
 Below, left—Lounge, Ritz-Carlton Cloister, Boca Raton, Florida. Designed by Addison Mizner  
 Below, right—Living Room, Residence of Mr. A. E. Cameron, Palos Verdes Estates. K. Cutter, Architect

## EDITORIAL

### *The Why of the Institute*

RECENTLY a pamphlet was sent to the architects of the United States giving information as to the object and program of the American Institute of Architects. Non-member architects are now, if such was not previously the case, in a position to judge whether the work of the Institute and the standards for which it stands are sufficiently important to justify and require their applications for membership.

Without regard to membership, architects everywhere, constantly, are availing themselves of schedules, forms, principles of practice, which have been established by the Institute as the National Organization of the architectural profession, and which are recognized by the courts as custom and precedent.

Since its founding in 1857, the members of the Institute have labored patiently and painstakingly, year after year, to stabilize architectural practice, to promote its aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency, to make it of ever increasing service to society.

It is constantly studying local practices and problems; assembling these studies, co-ordinating them, suggesting improvements or solutions. Changing methods and materials and business relations require continual re-studies. Due to the Institute, better collaboration is steadily being established between architects and producers, government bureaus, the allied arts—the painter, the sculptor, the landscape architect, the craftsman.

Its Circular of Advice for the prospective builder has been distributed widely, giving clear information about the functions of the architect; a document much needed for the promotion of better understanding and better relations.

It has not created a Super-Trades-Union, a privileged class of professional monopolists. It pledges its members to maintain standards of professional behavior; it does not bind them to maintain a price standard. The Schedule of Charges has never been mandatory; but as it is based upon a fair return for adequate services, it is a protection to every architect against quackery.

It is difficult to see how any conscientious architect can accept the benefits of such a national institution without feeling the obligation to register himself as a participant in its program of service. Every man knows in his heart

what his duty is to the profession and the public—and whether he is qualified to measure up to the standards which membership in the Institute implies, and requires. And there is a real satisfaction in definitely declaring one's self on the side of honorable public service.

\* \* \*

#### KENNEDY WITH CALIFORNIA STUCCO

The California Stucco Products Company, San Francisco, announces that Mr. E. J. Kennedy will head their Department of Technical Service. This department is prepared to furnish expert advice on matters of stucco texture, color, application, mixture, backing and every detail necessary to the successful use of exterior and interior stucco, both before and during the construction period. Upon the selection of a sample by the architect, the Company is prepared to follow up the work with all necessary attention, until properly completed.

Mr. John Woodyard is also associated with the Company in this department.

\* \* \*

The National Association of Ornamental Iron and Bronze Manufacturers will meet at West Baden, Indiana, on September 20, 21 and 22 for the twentieth annual convention.



Suggested monument to Colonel Charles Lindbergh.  
Modeled in soap by Francis J. Keally for  
National Small Sculpture Committee



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# INSTITUTE AND CLUB MEETINGS

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, A. I. A. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Northern California Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, will be held September 20, 1927, in the rooms of the San Francisco Architectural Club, 523 Pine street. Dinner will be served at seventy-five cents per plate.

\* \* \*

## ALAMEDA CO. SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

September 5th was the date set for the election of officers, appointment of major committees and planning for activities in the forthcoming fall and winter season of the Alameda County Chapter of the A. I. A.

\* \* \*

## WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, A. I. A. *Headquarters, Seattle, Wash.*

The annual outing meeting of June in which the Washington State Chapter, A. I. A., journeys to Tacoma, was particularly enjoyable this year since the trip was made from Seattle to Tacoma on the yachts of John Graham and Ted Geary. The day was divided between the homes and hospitality of Captain and Mrs. Griggs, Mr. Rhodes and the Tacoma Hotel, where dinner and entertainment were provided.

During a brief business session, plans for the chapter's exhibit to be held in October were reported upon and discussed. The event will be held in the auditorium of Nelson & Frederick during the second and third weeks of October. Sufficient funds have been voted to cover the chapter's expenses in the affair and arrangements have been made for the publicity, so necessary to the success of such an exhibition.

\* \* \*

## WEST COAST WOODS ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

Resolution unanimously passed by the Washington State Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, August 12, 1927:

WHEREAS, the West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau, together with Mr. C. W. Stimson, of Seattle, have conducted a notable and successful National Competition covering a problem in Domestic Architecture which involves the use of lumber in such manner as to promote varied artistic, architectural motives and effects, and

WHEREAS, the West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau has from inception to completion of this competition shown the utmost deference to the ethics of the American Institute of Architects relating to competitions, maintaining at all times considerate and courteous relations with this institution through its Washington State Chapter which enjoyed the honor of sponsoring this competition, and

WHEREAS, refined and artistic architectural treatment and the economic, intelligent use of building materials are promoted by competitions of this character,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Chapter of the American Institute of Architects extend to the West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau and Mr. C. W. Stimson our sincere congratulations on the successful issue of this competition, that we heartily

commend the generous scope and vision which have been continuously evidenced by the Bureau and that we fully appreciate the valuable contribution which, by reason of this competition, has been made to the cause of good architecture.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER

Signed: HARLAN THOMAS, *President*  
H. A. MOLDENHOUR, *Secretary*

Prize winning designs in the West Coast Woods Architectural Competition will be shown in the October number of PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT.

\* \* \*

## ARCHITECTS' LEAGUE OF HOLLYWOOD

Summer sessions of The Architects' League of Hollywood have been a happy combination of good fellowship and soundly constructive programs.

Robert B. Stacy-Judd gave a series of three talks on Mayan and Aztec architecture during July and early August. The first talk of the series dealt with the probable origin and known history of the architectures; the second with their application and significance, and in the third talk the speaker showed modern examples of the work and further discussed its possible application in present-day architecture.

On August 17th, Conrad Buff gave a talk on "Dynamic Symmetry," a modern system of design which has interesting possibilities in the architectural world.



Louis Christian Mullgardt, one of California's best known architects, is spending the summer at the Hotel Del Monte





## Nation Wide Service

THE service of the American Seating Company in cooperating with architect and builder is as wide as the nation. It includes designing, production and installation of chancel furniture and pews for churches, and the complete production and installation of seating for auditorium, theatre, and school.



Chancel and pews of the Boulevard Congregational Church, Detroit, Michigan, were produced in our Wood Carving Division in collaboration with Mr. Lancelot Sukert, Architect.

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# THE INSPECTOR

TRADE-MARK AND TITLE REGISTERED IN UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

COMBINED WITH PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT AND EDITED BY MARK C. COHN

❧ VOLUME THREE

❧ SERIAL ISSUE OF THE INSPECTOR ❧

NUMBER NINE ❧

## PLANNING LAW DECLARED VOID -

A new law enacted recently by the California Legislature is declared void and ineffective in an opinion written by County Counsel Mattoon and Deputy Counsel McFadden for the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. According to legal counsel, as far as powers purported to be imposed in counties for the creation of city planning commissions which would have strict control of plans for subdivisions, and considerable other powers, are concerned, the act is unconstitutional, because it violates that section of the state constitution which directs that the Legislature shall create counties with uniform systems of government.

Apparently, according to the opinion of the county attorneys, the new law leaves it discretionary with counties whether they shall set up planning commissions, and it would thus be possible for some counties to have one system of government and others a varying system.

\* \* \*

## OXNARD SEEKS TO LICENSE BUILDERS

Builders in Oxnard, California, are reported to be considering a proposal to follow Ventura in asking the enactment of a builders' license law.

Ordinance No. 316, passed by the Board of Trustees in Ventura, provides for licensing and bonding of persons, firms and corporations engaged in the business of erecting or constructing buildings. The ordinance exempts an owner who builds or repairs his own dwelling. It further exempts any person who makes a minor alteration, if the total cost of the work does not exceed \$300. The license fee provided for building contractors is \$50 a year, and contractors must post \$5,000 bond.

\* \* \*

## SANTA BARBARA CHANGES CODE

Changes in building regulations have been adopted in Santa Barbara to reduce requirements for uses of property relating to percentage of areas, sizes of rear and side yards and setback distance from streets. Apparently unnecessary stringent regulations were put into effect during the alarmist period which held sway following the quake of 1925.

\* \* \*

## BUILDINGS TO BE NUMBERED

Amendment to the building law in San Francisco would require every building to be numbered with figures at least four inches high and so placed that they can be plainly seen from the street and of a different color than the building to which attached.

\* \* \*

Donald M. Baker, consulting engineer and first vice-president of the American Association of Engineers, has been appointed a member of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission by Mayor George E. Cryer. The appointment was confirmed by the City Council.

## KEEP IT QUIET

Learned scientists apparently have discovered a new peril; that the sun might explode and all inhabitants of the earth be blown to distraction or extinction or something. They also say that forty stars have exploded during the past twenty-five years. It remains to be seen if some sufferer from a psychological complex to regulate building for every possible contingency, no matter how remote, will suggest that all building construction be made safe against the explosion of sun and stars. And then someone is apt to recommend that buildings carry sun and star explosion insurance. In that event special sun and star inspectors would be the vogue.

\* \* \*

## MORE CHANGES IN L. A. CODE

Amendments proposed for adoption in the Los Angeles Building Ordinance would permit greater use of concrete block construction, and legalize the use of a new type of burned clay hollow block. A committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, which is reported to have worked for the past two years on a code requirement to take care of lateral stresses that might develop under earthquake conditions, will submit the proposition for consideration by the Municipal Board of Building and Safety Commissioners.

\* \* \*

## DANCING AND STONE LAYING

It requires two and twelve-hundredths more calories of energy to dance the Charleston than is exerted by a stone mason, according to the profound statisticians of a physiological institute in Finland. Rated schedule for dancing the Charleston is 7.65 and the work of a stone mason 5.53. This perhaps accounts for the high cost of bricklaying.

\* \* \*

## NEW CITY JOB URGED

Assistant Superintendent of Building would be the title of a new position recommended to be created by the City Council of Los Angeles by J. J. Backus, superintendent of building. The position would be under jurisdiction of the Board of Building and Safety Commissioners and the salary \$300 a month.

\* \* \*

## REDONDO SEEKS CODE AMENDMENTS

Permits for plastering and stucco, and probable licensing of plastering contractors, are contemplated in proposals before the Board of Trustees of Redondo Beach, California.

\* \* \*

An ordinance adopted by the Board of Trustees of Hermosa Beach, California, on recommendation of F. C. Mead, building inspector, would regulate lathing, plastering and stucco work.



## THE INSPECTOR

## Simplified Short Form Building Code Urged

[BY MARK C. COHN]

*Expert Consultant on Housing and Building Regulations*

(This is the twenty-seventh of a series of articles on building codes.)



PEEP AT THE BUILDING CODE OF THE FUTURE," recently published in this series of articles, apparently found many friends among readers. Letters assert this is an opportune time to obtain simplified building practice through simplified building regulation. It appears to be the consensus of opinion that the virtue of a building code lies in its effectiveness, and that readily understood requirements make for effectiveness. All of which is rather axiomatic, but lends emphasis to the rapidly changing viewpoint on the entire subject of municipal building regulation.

There is a growing demand for a building code written concisely and confined to its subject. It is pointed out that the weakness of the ordinary type of building code is lack of adherence to elementary fundamentals. Better informed code specialists realize the weakness of unwieldy, voluminous building ordinances which are relics of olden days when specialized professional building service was unknown. Yet it has been next to impossible to educate cities out of the mistaken viewpoint that a code to regulate building must of necessity be voluminous.

## MASTER BUILDING CODE

The building code of the future might be described as a short form master code supplemented by a series of brief chapter codes, each complete in itself, dealing with specialized portions of building construction and specialized occupancies as the case may be. It will supersede the present type of building ordinance.

Major fundamental requirements for building over which municipalities may exercise police power jurisdiction easily may be written into a short building code so as to be applicable to about 90 per cent of all problems of building regulation. Intelligent enforcement would be facilitated thereby and the short form code would invite cooperation of the public, highly desirable and essential.

The study of almost any municipal building code makes obvious the fact that out of some 200 to 225 pages of closely printed content about 90 per cent is applicable to about 10 per cent of building; and about 75 per cent is data taken from standard specifications with which the building fraternity is familiar.

## WILL SIMPLIFY PRACTICE

The popular building code of the future will avoid requiring that a property owner who desires to build a home, or perhaps a masonry building of one or two stories, shall read scores of pages of printed law in order to learn whether 2 x 4 stud is permissible or if a 12-inch brick wall will pass muster in a one-story garage.

The short form code will set out briefly requirements for permits, classes of building—divided into not more than four general classes—general fundamental requirements for wood framing, foundations, masonry walls, chimneys, interior construction, lathing and plastering and roof coverings. In that fashion it will cover the major regulations for building over which municipalities

exercise jurisdiction in 90 per cent of all construction operations.

Special requirements to regulate hazardous occupancies and certain types of building will be covered in separate enactments, each complete within itself. These, too, can be written concisely, the better to be understood and more easily enforced.

To illustrate: Requirements of engineering, allowable assumptions, theory and design of reinforced concrete all could be set out in one specification. It would serve to inform quickly and intelligently all interested in that subject. Structural steel requirements could be handled in a like manner and special occupancy provisions, too, treated in separate short ordinances.

## FOR SPECIALIZED OCCUPANCIES

The design and building of a school, hospital, jail, theater, public edifice and other structures used for specialized purposes are of no interest to the general run of the big army engaged in the building business who are compelled to use building codes daily. Informative data on these classes of building are of interest to the few concerned. Moreover, each of these classes of occupancy often involves special treatment. Consequently, they can be treated better if handled as separate ordinances.

Study of a building ordinance in a certain municipality reveals twenty pages of minute details for the construction of fire escapes on buildings of three or more stories in height. A vast amount of printed space is devoted to automatic fire sprinklers, gravity and pressure tanks, wet and dry standpipes and to smoke towers. All this verbiage is sandwiched between other relatively unimportant regulations, but of interest to those engaged in the construction of small wooden frame structures. Surely unrelated requirements which must necessarily be read by all in order to pick out what each wishes to learn from the code.

## IT IS FEASIBLE

The feasibility of writing, in positive fashion and concisely, a general building code is proven by the fact that sanitary plumbing, electrical wiring and elevator construction are handled as separate enactments (not always concisely, however) and apart from the building ordinance. The same idea is adaptable for the design and construction of theaters. Every building has plumbing and electrical wiring, but every building is not a theater.

Study made of the building code, in a city that boasts of something like twenty legitimate theaters and perhaps less than one hundred picture shows, claims the distinction of having something like 200,000 homes, flats, small stores and the ordinary medium size structures. Yet scattered through the building code of that city there is about ten times as much space devoted to theater construction alone as all classes of small buildings. And it is this latter informative data that is of vital interest to a far greater number of readers.

The world do move, and simplified short form building codes will eventuate in the not far distant future. They will be adopted quickly because the expense of legal publication will be greatly lessened.

## THE INSPECTOR

### Ask THE INSPECTOR

*Under this heading are published questions and answers dealing with building problems. Herewith are published a number of queries asked of The Inspector and the answers. Pop the question. Your name will be omitted if you wish.*

### Tell THE INSPECTOR

*This column is dedicated to kicks and comments. Names omitted on request. Right is reserved to publish or reject any complaint received. Give name and address in evidence of good faith. This department is open for constructive criticisms.*

*Q. To whom can we address a complaint against an old wooden apartment house three stories high that has no outside iron fire escape? We thought there was a state law to compel all buildings to have outside fire escapes.*

*A. If the building in question is very old the chances are the provisions of the California State Housing Act are inapplicable, as its requirements are not retroactive regarding fire escapes. Suggest you first call on the building inspector to learn if the local ordinance is applicable to the condition complained of. The fire chief, health officer, police department and building inspector are all charged with the duty of enforcing housing, health, safety and building laws.*

### NEW PLASTER LAW BOOSTS PRICE

Contractors have announced a 15 per cent increase in the cost of exterior work and a 10 per cent raise in the cost of interior lathing and plastering on account of more stringent requirements of the new plastering and lathing ordinance adopted in Los Angeles according to report from Van Nuys, borough of Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

### ALHAMBRA CITY MANAGER

A. E. Stockburger, formerly city manager of South Pasadena, has been appointed city manager of Alhambra to succeed M. H. Irvine, who resigned the position several weeks ago.



© L. A. P. B. CO.

### SHERE-SURREY

In this example, an old house in Shere, particular attention is called to the design of the chimney, starting from a heavy base and gradually lightening in its upward development. Notice the interesting manner in which the common brick is handled in the final finishing out of the chimney with the projecting courses and offsets in the face. ¶ The bay at the left, one will note, has been hipped and the hips finished with half-round tiles which are not to be compared with the older form of bonnet tiles. ¶ The windows on the first floor, which in this case open directly upon the highway, are closed by shutters operated from the outside, as it would not be practical to operate a shutter in any other manner where the sash swings out, as is the rule in all English work, the outswinging of the sash accounting for the absence of shutters in most examples. Upon the other hand, shutters are of frequent occurrence in continental work, the sash swinging in and permitting the operation of the shutter from the window opening.

*Publication of photographs of the varied types of the minor English domestic architecture in this exclusive serial is made possible by courtesy of the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company, from data collected at first hand in Europe.*





### DECORATIVE NOTES [ A SERIES ]

#### *A Deliberately Chinese Interior*

CHINESE DESIGN and color were used in an unusual room for entertainment ❧ ceiling in jade and black, blue, red and orange ❧ a silvered dome ❧ glazed and lacquered bronze walls ❧ black sash and base ❧ scarlet trim ❧ In the residence of Hans Nelson, San Francisco ❧ Chas. F. Strothoff, Architect ❧ Decorative treatment designed and executed by A. Quandt & Sons, Painters and Decorators [ since 1885 ] 374 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, Cal.

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# ORNAMENTAL IRON



BALCONY, PALAZZO GIA CALCIATI, PIACENZA

## THE DECORATIVE USE OF IRON

[BY HARRIS ALLEN, A.I.A.]



WITH the tremendous growth in popularity of the Latin or "Mediterranean" architectural motif on the Pacific Coast, there has developed naturally an increased use of iron for structural accessories. Formerly regarded as applicable almost entirely for public buildings, with the exception of an occasional balcony, ironwork played no part in the great mass of private work.

Now, however, to its qualities of strength and permanence have been added those of beauty and fitness, and the client demands iron for every type of building and in every conceivable form. As a consequence of this demand, of wider and

keener competition, of the more exacting requirements of architect and decorator, the modern standard of craftsmanship has improved until the craft has today almost, if not quite, regained the mastery over metal that made Europe of the Middle Ages such a treasure-house of iron fabrication. Technical and shop equipment is, of course, tremendously developed; there yet remains the necessity for the human touch to overcome the monotony of machine-made exactness, "perfection." Under the spur of great demand, these artists in ironwork are being developed; and the importance of this material, and its uses, in the building industry, is becoming more and more evident daily.

Recognizing that this is so, a series of articles is being prepared for publication in the Pacific Coast Architect, each of which will deal with a different type of ironwork or a different building distinguished for its use of iron. Illustrations of masterpieces from the Old World (such as those accompanying this introductory article) will be shown from time to time, and we can promise some very interesting comparisons with modern handiwork, whether inspired by old models or molded along new lines of design. To acquaint our readers with the possibilities of metal-working today, the really extraordinary progress that has been made within the last few years, will be well worth while. This series of monographs, when completed, should prove to be a valuable addition to the library of every architect; and of others connected with our building interests.



Iron Stair Rail, Arezzo





BALCONY IN PALAZZO BEVILACQUA, BOLOGNA

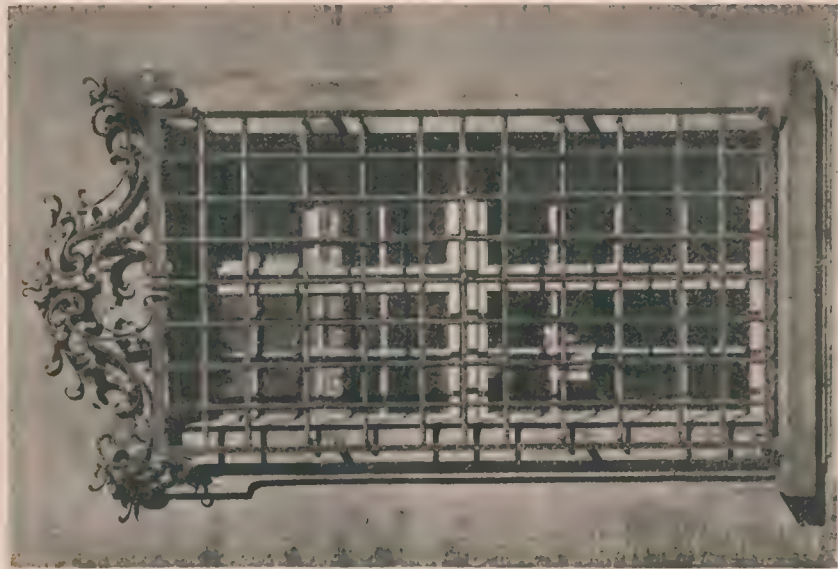
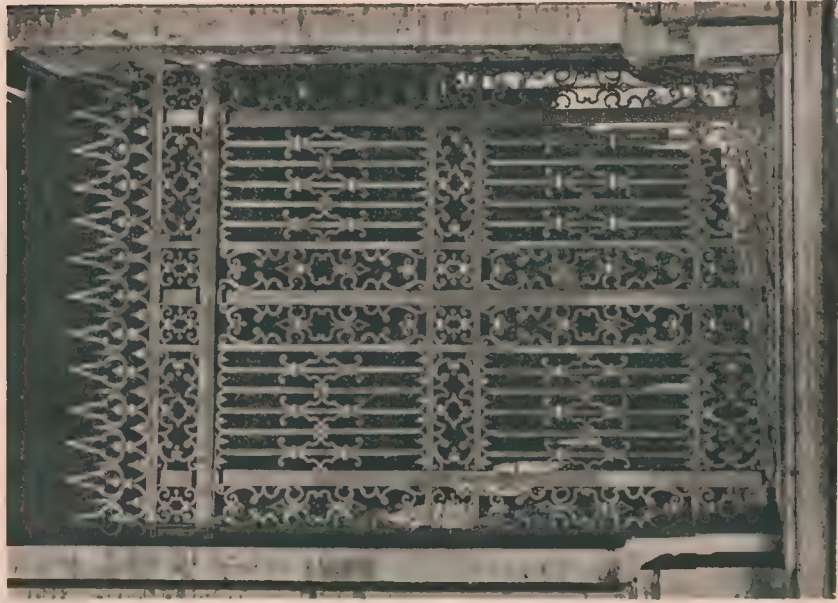


DETAIL OF CHANCEL SCREEN, MUSEUM, PALERMO



BALCONY, HOUSE IN CREMONA





LEFT—WINDOW, HOSPITAL IN MODENA; RIGHT—GATE IN CHURCH OF S. GIOVANNI LATERANO, ROME

# THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE FIREPLACE

[Concluded from page 19]

posed of, the architect, homeowner and builder are free to work out what artistry they will upon the exterior design of the hearthstone. Here, of course, the materials, motifs and architectural periods that may be drawn upon are well nigh endless. But the fireplace, as the permanent decorative unit of a room must achieve the end of having strong interest and variety, while maintaining harmony with the spirit of the chamber and the manner in which the spirit is expressed.

Obviously, then, the problem of building a fireplace is one of capturing a spirit—a result which can hardly be realized by any one cut-and-dried formula. Every fireplace is a study in itself. If it is of the same material as the walls of the room, its scale and proportions; the molding of its lines and contours; its ornamentation with color or some other decorative device can make of it an unending joy, or a botchy, indifferent thing. If the material of the fireplace is different from that of the walls, it may easily have the appearance of something that has been "stuck on." But if the texture, color and unit dimensions of the contrasting material are selected and assembled so that they have unity and relationship with the quiet simplicity, the quaint chasteness, the sturdy ruggedness, the sumptuous luxury of the room, as the case may be, we have a fireplace with the strength of contrast and the virtues of proper relationship.

A hearthstone having these qualities is an ideal, attained, perhaps, by few builders. As a possession in a home, it is to be ranked with—possibly beyond—jewels, tapestries, rare paintings, statuary or what you will, for these things may be but symbols of the possession of many dollars and may carry no implication of genuine appreciation on the part of the owner. But the family whose home, however small, simple or inexpensive, has a fireplace which captures the imagination by its sheer charm, is a home whose people, if need be, could live life graciously, richly and well with only their fireplace and a few other simple possessions.



Living Room, house of W. C. Van Antwerp,  
Burlingame, California



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FEATURING · WEST COAST WOODS COMPETITION AWARDS

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VOLUME XXXII · OCTOBER · 1927 · NUMBER FOUR

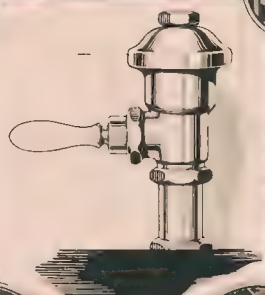
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# PACIFIC · COAST · ARCHITECT

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### WEST COAST WOODS ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

*Report of the Professional Adviser*



IN THE early stages of architectural development in this country the colonists were directly subject to the English influence and it has only been since 1900 that our methods of thought have crystallized other than in British molds. It takes some time for architectural consciousness to develop. The last few years, however, appreciation of good taste, character, and design in the small house has progressed by leaps and bounds. This is partly due to increased wealth and leisure, but to a greater extent can be attributed to the stimulation given by publications and various small-house competitions.

In approaching the West Coast Woods Competition the exploitation of the Douglas fir, West Coast hemlock, Sitka spruce and Western red cedar was an intent. However, the Bureau had other purposes of almost equal value in mind. Without question such a contest should stimulate better character in house design; it was hoped that freedom from standardized and stultified methods would prevail; that familiarity with wood construction would be broadcast, and that interesting modes of developing the beauties of these woods would be made the subject of intense study.

From all of the above was developed the paragraph of the program entitled "Purpose and Intent of Competition," which is herewith quoted:

"The special purpose and intent of this competition is to develop and bring forth the uses, applications, and methods of construction and finishing of the woods of the Pacific Northwest, Douglas fir, West Coast hemlock, Sitka spruce and Western red cedar. It is the thought of the Bureau that the methods of use and beauty in treatment of these woods has as yet been merely touched upon and that applied ingenuity will bring forth new and effective developments both in using and beautifying these products."

Next in order for selection were the considerations upon which the problem would be judged. Although each of these was not given a percentage they were placed in order of their value in the program. Thus, No. 1, "Novelty and orig-

inality in the treatment and use of woods native to the Pacific Northwest." No. 2, "Excellence and ingenuity of plans." No. 3, "Architectural merit of the design and fitness of the application to a frame house," and so on. So much for the preparation for the competition.

As to the result, there were over two hundred competitors submitting over double that number of drawings, the general character of which was very gratifying. Nineteen were thrown *hors de concours* for violating one or the other of the requirements of the program. The competition was international in scope. Drawings were received from Canada, England, France and Hawaii. The Jury was unanimous in its selection in the first and second prizes and the mentions were rated as given.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. LISTER HOLMES,  
*Professional Adviser.*

#### REPORT OF THE JURY

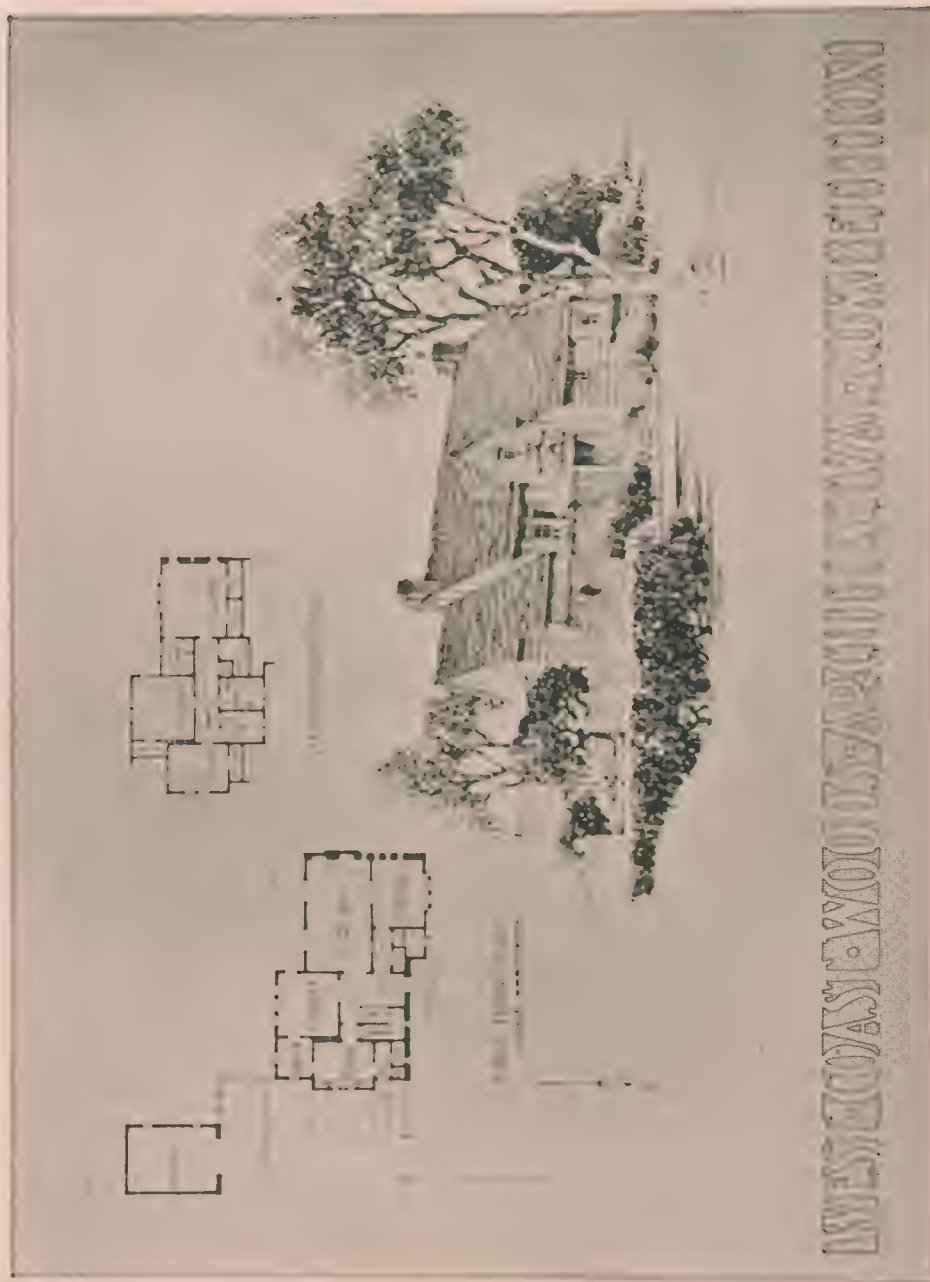
The Jury of Award in the "Architectural Competition for the Uses of West Coast Woods in Home Construction" begs to report its findings with respect to the 203 submissions, as follows:

First prize . . . . .	Drawing No. 7
Second prize . . . . .	Drawing No. 136
First mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 76
Second mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 96
Third mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 17
Fourth mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 72
Fifth mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 29
Sixth mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 146
Seventh mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 25
Eighth mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 114
Ninth mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 64
Tenth mention . . . . .	Drawing No. 14

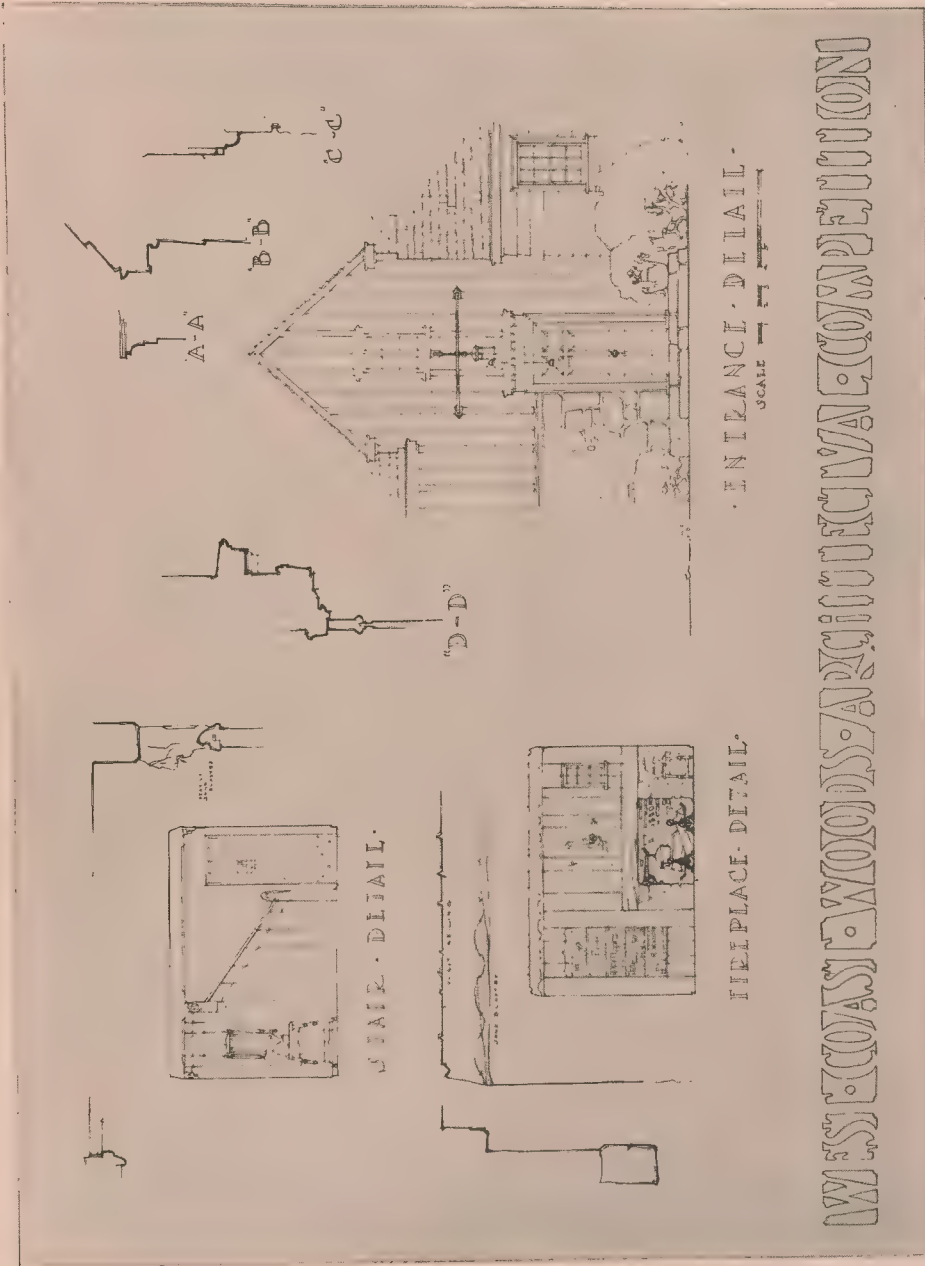
Of the rest of the submissions, 17 were excluded, variously, on account of violation of the clearly stipulated conditions with respect to rendering, scale of plans, number of principal rooms, excessive use of materials other than wood, or the inexplicable presence of a symbol or device upon the drawings, while one submission was received after the date required for delivery. In some cases, otherwise interesting designs, as shown in perspective drawings, were

[Concluded on page 57]



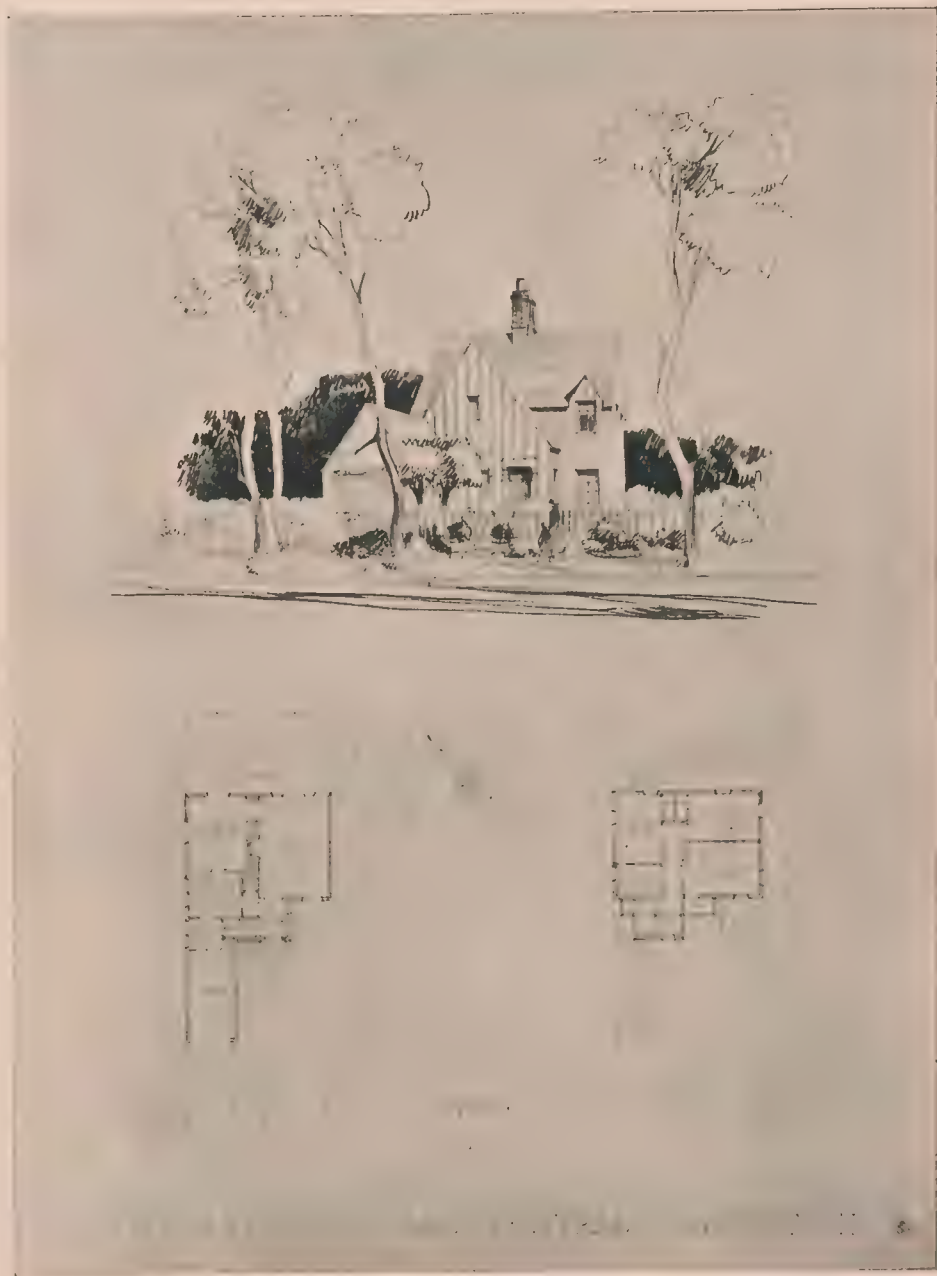


FIRST PRIZE, \$2,000: DESIGN NO. 7 BY OTHO MCCrackIN, WITH MANN & CO., ARCHITECTS, HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

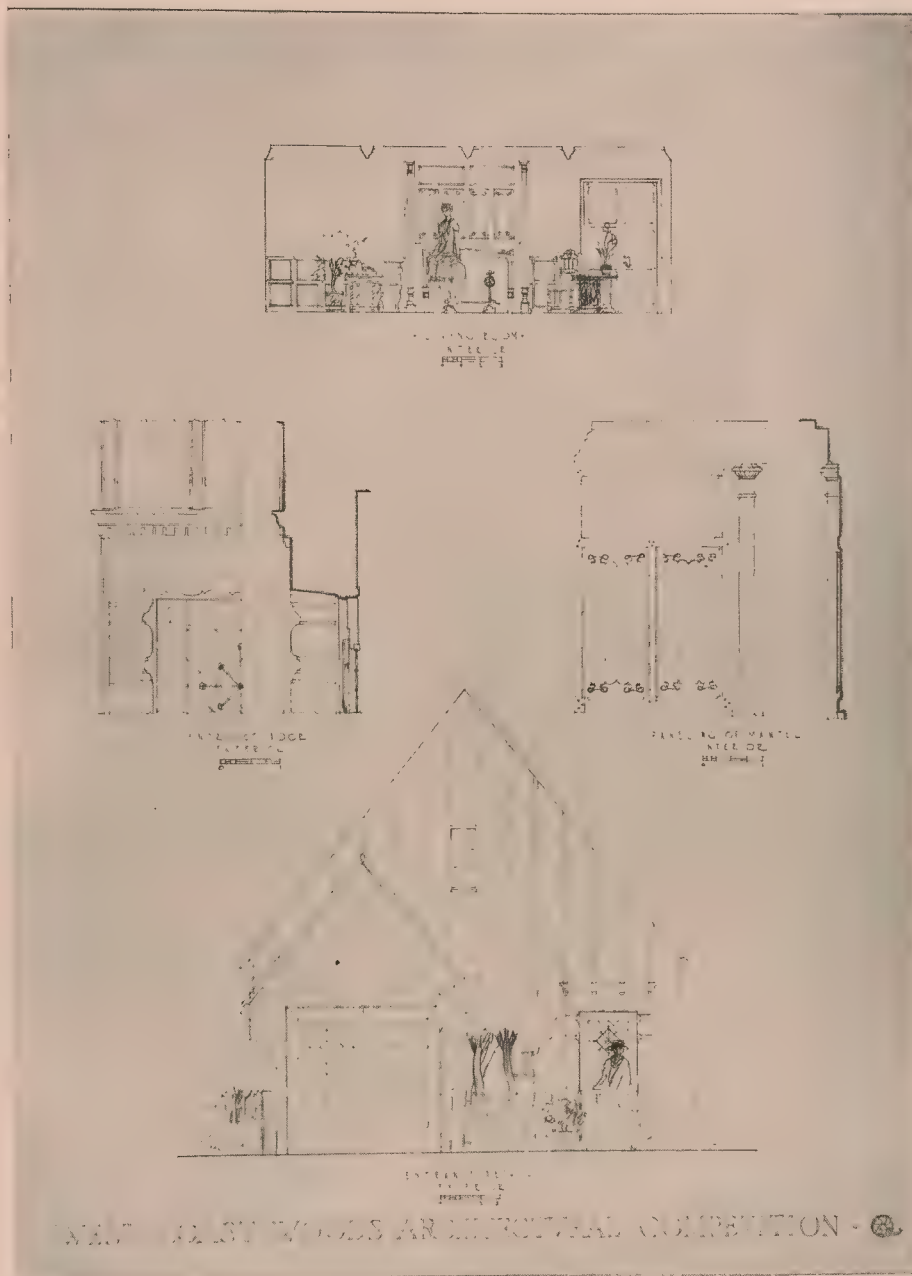


The standing finish in living-room, entrance hall and dining-room is to be of Douglas fir, the ceiling and fireplace beams to be hard hewn. All to be lightly sand blasted, after which a stencil of metal shall protect the surface exposing the design; this is to then be heavily sand blasted, after which a bowwood is to be applied to surface in a manner. All to be stained a brownish gray, with portions of the design brought out in which deep, light. The ceiling is to be of Douglas fir, and is to have a weather-gray stain as balance of siding. The siding is to be sand blasted before placing, and finished with a weather-gray stain as balance of siding.



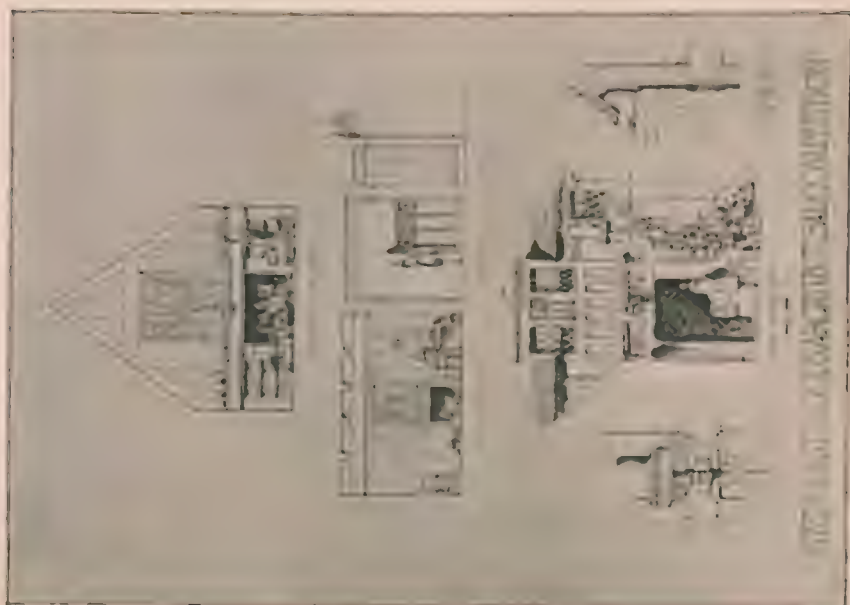


SECOND PRIZE, \$500: DESIGN NO. 136, BY ANGUS McD. MCSWEENEY, 250 SANTA PAULA AVENUE,  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



SECOND PRIZE, \$500: DESIGN NO. 136, BY ANGUS McD. McSWEENEY, 250 SANTA PAULA AVE., SAN FRANCISCO. The accompanying designs and plans show a possible solution for an average city lot designed to produce a pleasing effect in a wood house. ¶On plans every effort was made that the arrangement of the rooms may be as simple and compact as possible, eliminating all unnecessary space and reducing the gross area to a minimum. ¶The exterior is to be entirely of red cedar. On the main front gable is flush boarding with moulded vertical battens that produce a pleasing effect in contrast with the special cut red cedar shingles as shown on the remainder of the house. The roof is of red cedar split shakes laid irregular and doubled at eaves. Main entrance and garage doors are red cedar. ¶The interior of living-room, dining-room and entry to have wood wainscot and wood beam ceilings of Douglas fir, sand blasted, stained and oiled. ¶All floors to be random width of thick planks, roughed with jackplane and stained and oiled. ¶The doors, cases, trims, and all other woodwork in interior to be Douglas fir. ¶The wall of exterior to be a weathered gray and roof stained green. Sash to be green.



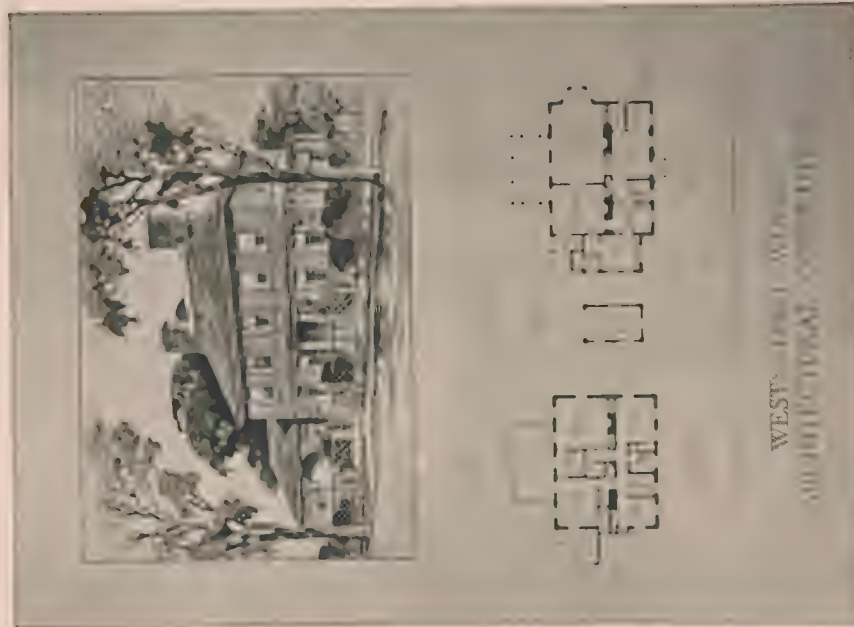
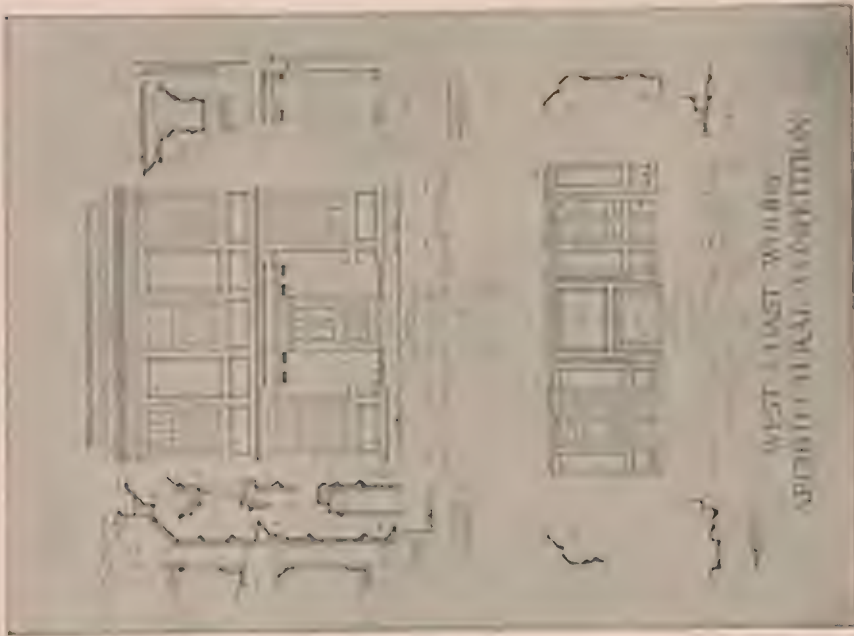


THE HOLLYWOOD HOUSE, 1011 N. 10TH ST., SEATTLE, WASH. D.C. 98107. The house was designed by the architect, and the floor plan was drawn by the architect. The house is a two-story house with a prominent chimney and a gabled roof. The floor plan shows a large central hall and several rooms.



THESE DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED BY THE ARCHITECT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ILLUSTRATING THE PROPOSED BUILDING. THE DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED AS A FINAL DESIGN, BUT AS A PRELIMINARY STUDY. THE ARCHITECT HAS NOT BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE MEASUREMENTS OR THE DETAILS OF THE DRAWINGS. THE DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE ARCHITECT.





THIRD MENTION: DESIGN NO. 17, BY ALFRED COOKMAN, ARCHITECT, 101 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

As the plan is fundamental, a rectangular unbroken shape is most economical, conserves heat, and a too picturesque roof will certainly become a leak in one's income. Fireplaces are best on internal walls. The author entertains no prejudice against "Romantic" types of domestic work, but is convinced of the enduring value of the traditional "Western" tradition in this field of composition. There is just as much vitality in the traditional as there is in the new, and the author feels that the traditional is the basis for considerable variety in treatment of the woods used. Of the usual frame construction exterior walls are to be finished with a light driftwood gray; the sash only painted white; fences, trellises and shingles of Western red cedar. Living-room and dining-room paneled in West Coast hemlock, fumed or stained a "rift sawed" fumed or stained wide boards.



PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

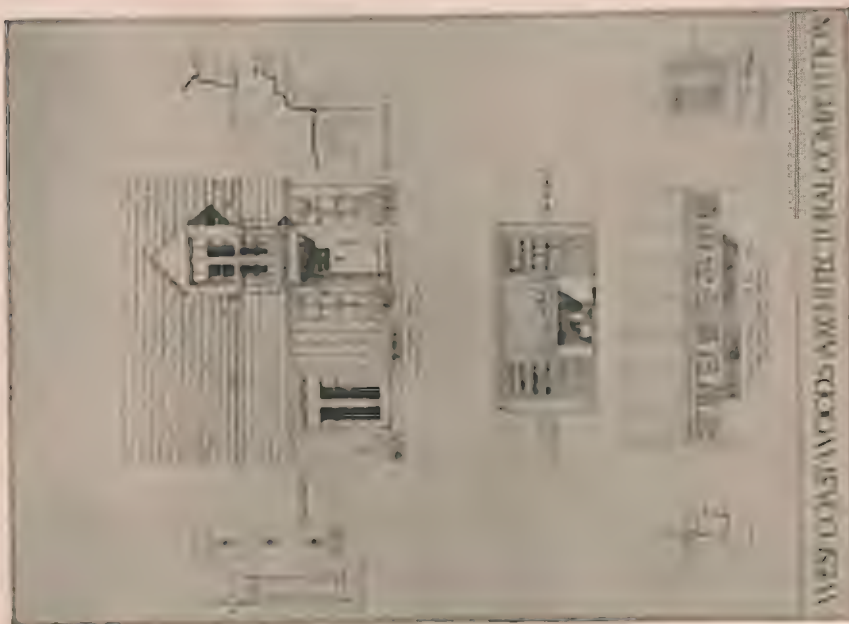


WEST COAST WOODS ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

FOURTH MENTION: DESIGN NO. 72, BY LYLE SWIGER, ARCHITECT, 506 FLAT IRON BUILDING. *ASHVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA*

...ers shall be dense  
shed in natural spruce, fir  
throughout the first and second floors







ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

The house is built on a steep rise, and is a simple, comfortable, and convenient home, with a small porch, and a small garden. The house is built on a steep rise, and is a simple, comfortable, and convenient home, with a small porch, and a small garden. The house is built on a steep rise, and is a simple, comfortable, and convenient home, with a small porch, and a small garden.





SEVENTH MENTION: DESIGN NO. 25, BY HETH WHARTON, ARCHITECT, 2297 WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

This house is conceived to express a dignified yet unostentatious mode of living. Mass and detail are unpretentious and informal. No delicate moldings or highly polished surfaces are used. The materials are selected for their natural beauty and are finished in a simple, unadorned manner. The exterior is finished with a combination of white and red. The interior is finished with a combination of white and red. The exterior is finished with a combination of white and red. The interior is finished with a combination of white and red.

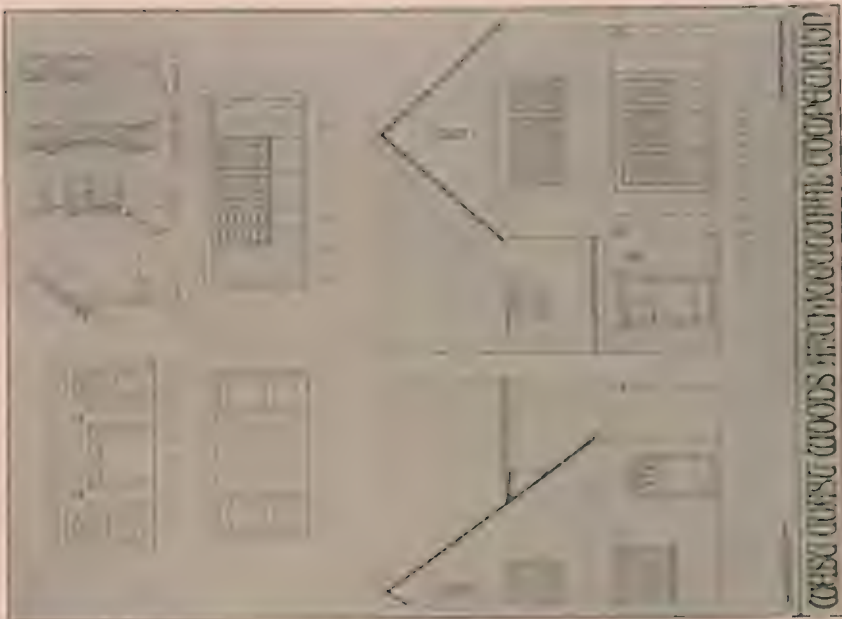
Stair work, West Coast hemlock. Painting—interior: Ridge boards Old Virginia white, wiped lightly. Painting—speckled, dining-room, creosote stain, faintly stenciled pattern. Western red cedar, no finish. Sitka spruce, shelled and waxed.

Stair work, West Coast hemlock. Painting—interior: Ridge boards Old Virginia white, wiped lightly. Painting—speckled, dining-room, creosote stain, faintly stenciled pattern. Western red cedar, no finish. Sitka spruce, shelled and waxed.













LAGUNA HONDA HOME, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. JOHN REID, JR., ARCHITECT

# THE LAGUNA HONDA RELIEF HOME

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]



IN PLANNING the Laguna Honda Relief Home of San Francisco, Architect Reid was confronted with a variety of problems, peculiar both in their practical and artistic aspects. But his finished work shows in its component parts an admirable perfection, while as a whole the building is remarkable in the unity and coordination of all factors involved and in its flexibility to meet future needs. So well has the work been done that the fame of the Laguna Honda Home has grown apace. Various Eastern architects, specializing more or less in this class of work, and authorities in the social service field have visited and inspected the Home. These people have given the opinion that it is without question one of the most advanced structures of its type in the United States, and no small contribution to this particular branch of social science and the architecture that houses it.

In the nature and location of its site, the Laguna Honda Home sets a new precedent. Relief homes are ordinarily located on the outskirts of cities and well away from any of the more desirable residential districts. But this Home lies well within the heart of San Francisco's most attractive, newer and desirable home areas. All possible objection to the presence of a public institution on the part of the home owners in the adjacent neighborhoods is done away with in the general attractiveness of the Home and its grounds. The design, generally Spanish in spirit, is simply handled to give strength and dignity. There is entirely lacking that impersonal, forbidding "institution" look, so common to buildings of its type. It is substantial without the depressing sense that the building was put up for durability alone, from whatever materials would most cheaply serve its practical purposes. Standing as it does upon the crest of a hill, the Home has something of a free and generous graciousness about it, and is, all in all, an architectural asset to the home neighborhoods which flank its grounds.

Upon going through the building, we see that its several units have been provided, located and equipped to serve a twofold purpose. One, to serve the human needs of its inmates as well as their physical needs. Two, to make it possible for the work of the place, done by either inmates or attendants, to be performed conveniently and expeditiously.



Detail of Court, Laguna Honda Home.



Typical Ward, Laguna Honda Home.

To the latter end, the kitchens, dining-rooms, serving pantries, bakeries, dish-washing rooms and all similar functional units of the Home have been planned and equipped with the idea in mind that, while the help furnished by the inmates is plentiful, it is largely inexperienced help with hands, feet and minds not normally agile. But these problems are all well worked out to meet conditions as they exist, and one remote part of the building can give service to an opposite wing with reasonable dispatch, by reason of the wide halls and ready accessibility between every unit of the great building.

The open and general wards are very simply laid out; finished and furnished without unnecessary ornamentation, making them easy to keep clean and sanitary by inmate workers. There are two special wards, one for men and one for women, the occupants of which are completely isolated from all the other inmates on account of their feeble physical or subnormal mental conditions. These two wards are equipped with facilities with which the attendants can do any special cooking their charges require, but in all other cases the inmates take their meals in the main dining-room, where they are served by fellow inmates.

In its facilities for providing comforts and diversions for its inmates, the Laguna Honda Home also sets somewhat of an advanced standard and makes provision for practically every type of mental and physical ease within its walls. We find within the building a chapel for religious services, a general auditorium for lectures, entertainments and a weekly moving-picture show, a library, men's reading room and billiard and card room. These rooms, while simply finished and furnished, are well lighted, airy, and painted in light tones or tiled to eliminate from them that dark, austere and depressing atmosphere so common to structures of this type. Thus every detail possible has been provided to care not only for the mere physical needs of these unfortunate citizens, but also to give them whatever mental diversion they may wish to avail themselves of, and so lighten the dreariness of their last and less fortunate days in this life.

\* \* \*

## PACIFIC PORTLAND CEMENT CO. MOVES

Announcement is made by the Pacific Portland Cement Company of the removal of their offices to the Hunter-Dulin Building, San Francisco. The entire eleventh floor is occupied by this company.



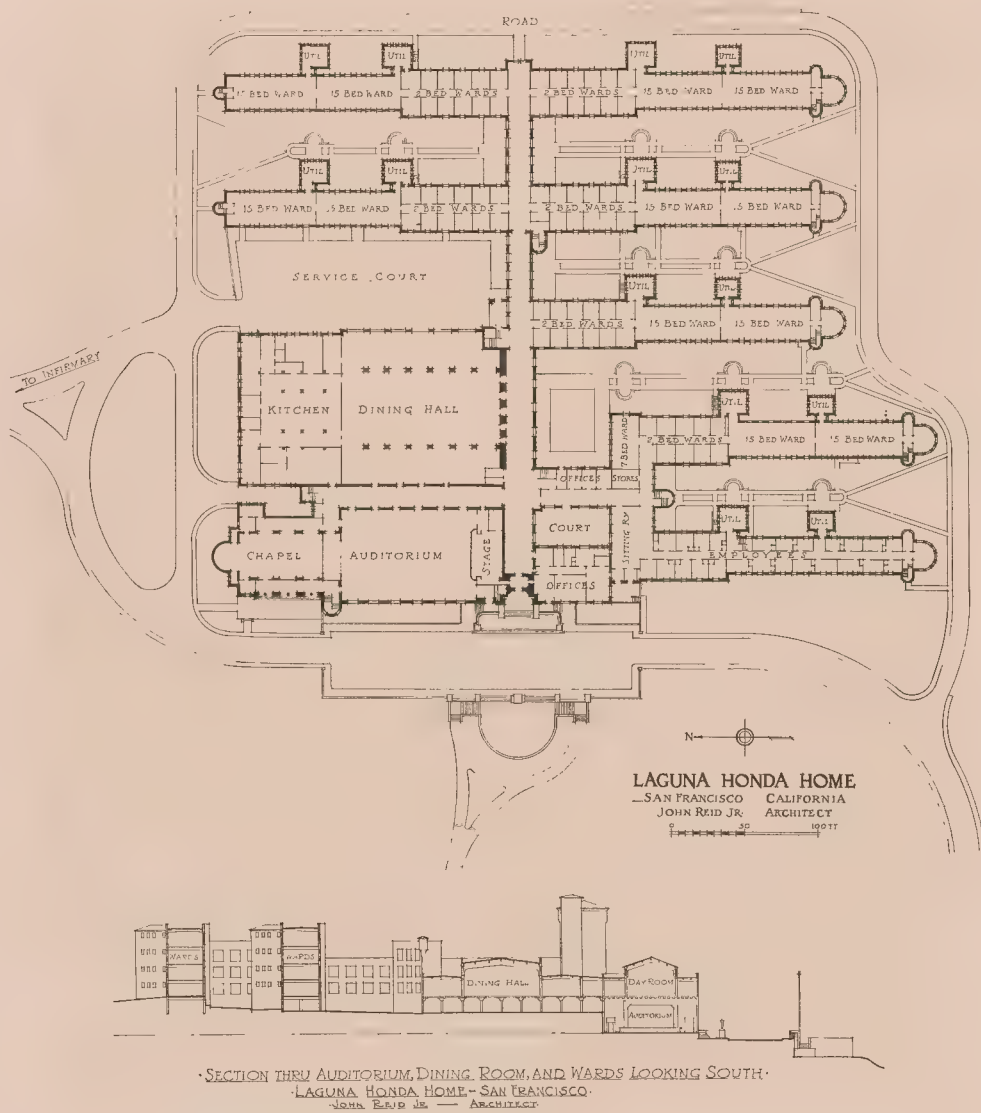


DETAIL OF FRONT EAST WING, LAGUNA HONDA HOME, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
JOHN REID, JR., ARCHITECT



LAGUNA HONDA HOME, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. JOHN REID, JR., ARCHITECT







LAGUNA HONDA HOME, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. JOHN REID, JR., ARCHITECT

*Above, Left—View of Typical Corridor. Above, Right—Men's Lounging Room.  
Center, Left—End of Main Dining-Room and Coffee Urns. Center, Right—Main Dining-Room.  
Lower, Left—Assembly Hall. Lower, Right—Chapel.*





# DECORATIVE NOTES [A SERIES]

## *Combining Spanish & Italian Motifs*

IN A ROOM designed to allure passersby, tile and iron treated in the Spanish manner are blended with richly adorned walls and ceiling, clearly of Italian inspiration. ¶ The color ensemble is skilfully blended. ¶ A suggestion of classical form in woodwork [walnut, stained and lacquered] and mural decorations still further harmonizes the two styles. ¶ Zeiss' Confection Shop, San Francisco. ¶ A. J. Horstmann, Architect. ¶ A. Quandt & Sons [since 1885] Painters and Decorators, 374 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, California

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RUSS BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. GEORGE W. KELHAM, ARCHITECT

*Photo by Gabriel Moulin*





RUSS BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. GEORGE W. KELHAM, ARCHITECT



ENTRANCE, RUSS BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. GEORGE W. KELHAM, ARCHITECT

Photos by Gab. Moulin





*George D. Clark Home, Palo Alto, California*

*Warren Skillings, Architect*

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# INTERIOR DECORATING

## IN THE REALM OF CEILINGS

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]



PERHAPS you have noticed it—that there is something psychologically peculiar about ceilings. We may enter a room luxuriantly carpeted and richly furnished, whose walls are adorned with costly hangings, but instinctively our eyes first sweep to the ceiling, to rest there for a fleeting instant. We enter a business house, store or bank—its ceiling in nine cases out of ten is the first thing that rivets our attention. We seek to find solution to our mental perplexities in the ceiling. We cannot escape from ceilings; we are always vaguely aware of their presence, and though we may never consciously analyze the nature of our reactions to certain ceilings, they are, nevertheless, satisfying or irritating to our sensibilities, as the case may be. Why?

The students of psychology and philosophy could no doubt supply any number of plausible reasons for our instinctive interest in ceilings. But we shall not concern ourselves greatly with any of these, merely accepting the fact of our inherent attraction to ceilings, and considering what essentials the architect may bring to them to render them esthetically expressive and beautiful.

Thinking back upon it, the ceilings in the great cathedrals and palaces of Europe; the ceilings in those homes, hotels, railroad stations, public and business buildings at home and abroad that have impressed themselves upon our memories have done so because they were expressive. Somehow they caught, held and embodied the dominating idea, the spirit of the building and its purpose. They were the epitome, the dramatic climax, of the story of the motives which the structure served—motives of reverence, worship, comfort, relaxation, amusement, beauty, finance, commercialism.

Expressiveness, then, appears as the major element in ceiling design, and nowhere is this better exemplified than in bank architecture. A score of years ago the financial house sought to impress the public with a sense of its remote and impregnable strength; to inspire almost fear and trembling. The ceilings of that banking era were lofty, of cold, lifeless material in restrained, formal design. But now the world of finance comes down to the level of the street, employing all the sales arts of the market place. More and more are the ceilings in banking houses being touched with bright, gay colors and fanciful designs; unusual materials are being used and illumination employed that gives illusive vagaries of light and shade. All this is expressive of the fact that banking and finance are talking in terms that every other line of business employs, and architecture is one of their most eloquent mediums.

In the effort to achieve expressiveness in ceilings, we see here and there, in buildings of every kind, size and purpose, that this quality is realized without any intelligent regard for relationships. That is, effects are secured which are clever and original in themselves, but which have no actual or symbolical connection with the room and the building. The ceiling in such a case has the rather startling and disconcerting effect of a suspended mass without visible means of suspension.

So the architect, building owner or home builder, with

high enthusiasms for a ceiling that will be quite different from anything that has been done before in material, design and ornamentation, will do well to pause and consider whether the proposed material and treatment will be a logical continuation of the essentials of the structure, or merely the injection of a diverse and alien element. This is not a plea against a spirit of free experiment in ceilings, or a condemnation of the use of materials differing from those used in the main masses of the building.

Far from that! The ceilings in our homes have so universally been cut and dried areas of plane surfaces that any architect who will take the time to consider how he can give them vitality and interest, through experimenting with color, texture, design, contrasting materials, lighting, this, that or the other device his imagination may suggest, will surely reap a reward not only in appreciative clients but in the satisfaction of having made noteworthy contribution to American home architecture.

In the public and business building field the professional and lay mind generally appears more alive to the possibilities of ceilings. This is reflected in the fact that in the noteworthy hotels, banks, public utility buildings, theatres, clubhouses, office buildings and the like, constructed on the West Coast within the past few years, the architects with but occasional exceptions have wrought ceiling work of exceptional originality in conception and fine craftsmanship in execution. As a matter of fact, one or two of these jobs have ceiling work which has few equals for its rich imaginativeness, its fine harmonization of theme and materials with those of the building generally and perfection of execution. In this class of work, at least, we have certainly become "ceiling conscious," and the whole trend of effort in this direction indicates that Western architecture will make a contribution peculiarly creative, beautiful and virile to the architecture of the country.



Pacific National Bank, Los Angeles, California  
Morgan, Walls & Clements, Architects





*Upper, Left*—Living-room, Residence E. J. Longear, Altadena, Calif. Wm. Lee Woollett, Architect.

*Upper, Right*—Beverly Hills Club, Beverly Hills, Calif. Asa W. Hudson, Architect.

*Center, Left*—Director's Room, Pacific National Bank, Los Angeles, Calif.  
Morgan, Walls & Clements, Architects.

*Center, Right*—Lobby Ceiling, Huntington Apartments, San Francisco. Weeks & Day, Architects.

*Lower, Left*—Library, Residence S. Beekman, Los Angeles, Calif. Henry F. Withey, Architect.

*Lower, Right*—Living-room, Residence S. Beekman, Los Angeles, Calif. Henry F. Withey, Architect.



*Upper, Left*—Swimming Pool, Elks' Club, San Francisco, Calif. Frederick H. Meyer, Architect.

*Upper, Right*—Lobby, Elks' Club, San Francisco, Calif. Frederick H. Meyer, Architect.

*Lower, Left*—Safe Deposit Lobby, Pacific National Bank, Los Angeles, Calif.

Morgan, Walls & Clements, Architects.

*Lower, Right*—Lobby, 26-story Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co. Bldg., San Francisco, Calif.

Miller & Pfueger, Architects.





*Pulpit St. Paul's Cathedral, Los Angeles, Calif.  
Johnson, Kaufmann & Coate, Architects*

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## · EDITORIAL ·

### *Politics versus Architecture*

THE coincidence of a coming election may or may not have anything to do with an investigation being conducted by certain Supervisors of San Francisco into the amounts of money paid as architectural fees for school work during the past ten or twelve years. The fact remains, that those newspapers hostile to the present Mayor have given the impression that excessive fees were charged for incomplete service, and much publicity has attended this "investigation," which was found to react unfavorably, not alone on the City Architect, but upon the profession generally.

Realizing this, a large group of architects, including those most distinguished locally and nationally, attended a hearing of the committee and presented an open letter defining the nature and extent of architectural service to be performed for the fee in question (the regular minimum fee of 6 per cent), expressing their complete confidence in Mr. John Reid, Jr., City Architect, and their high opinion of the work done by him or under his control. The school buildings of San Francisco rank architecturally among the very best in this country.

Whether this action on the part of architectural experts will have any effect upon the findings of the Supervisory Committee remains to be seen; but unquestionably it will clear up much confusion, will correct wrong impressions, in the public mind. Their evidence shows that the work performed was of excellent character, the service was complete, and the compensation, far from being excessive, was hardly adequate to cover the cost of plans, engineering and technical experts, etc., and still leave a fair payment for the architect who created, assembled, and bears responsibility for, these buildings in toto. \* \* \*

### *The Building Situation*

THERE has been a general decrease in building activity over the country during the present year. This is by no means an unhealthy sign, nor should it tend to pessimism as to the future outlook. The volume of new work is large enough to prevent any serious amount of unemployment; and there continues to be a great demand for better housing. Any idea of overbuilding may be discounted by a review of facts and figures; the normal growth of population and business requires not only more accom-

modation, but it requires it of higher quality. This involves a considerable amount of reconstruction, repairs, improvements.

A statement issued by a leading bond and mortgage company puts this in a convincing way:

"There is a great force at work today which has gained surprising velocity since the war. This is the force which makes us continually better our standards of living. The greatest accelerator of this force is advertising. Advertising makes us want better bathrooms; better kitchens; better heating plants; better furniture; better radios; pianos; foods, and so on, through the whole gamut of the luxuries and necessities which make up the framework of modern living. Advertising in turn keeps business active. It stabilizes demand and continually forces the producer of merchandise to keep alert to maintaining the standard of his product at the highest possible point.

"Those who believe that we may by some black magic of the mysterious arts return to the lower standards of living of fifteen or twenty years ago do not take into account the changes which have come over business during the past decade—even some laws of economics have suffered change.

"The general prosperity which is now in full view must of necessity affect favorably the entire population. This condition of course makes an increasing demand for new housing, better working conditions, greater office space."

### *A Significant Function*

THE Northern California Chapter, A. I. A., inaugurated recently a ceremony which is of real significance to the profession and to the community. On the evening of August 31st, the Honor Award Certificates for buildings chosen as displaying special merit in design and execution by a jury of architects from the Los Angeles Chapter, last May, were presented to architects, owners, and contractors, at a public meeting held in the Temple Emanuel, which received the Distinguished Honor Award.

Addresses were made by John Galen Howard, F. A. I. A., Rabbi Louis I. Newman, Mayor James Rolph, and Mr. Colbert Coldwell, President of the Industrial Association. Recognition of the importance to San Francisco of good architecture was manifested by the speakers, by the large audience, and by press comments.

It is proposed to make such Honor Awards biennially; and it is obvious that such an incentive to the erection of architecturally good buildings, and the favorable publicity so brought to the community, constitute a great step forward. America is gradually awaking to the realization that art has a practical, even a commercial value; and every growing community will do well to consider the old axiom that comparisons are often odious.



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## Wood endures

The oldest and most beautiful homes in America are houses built of wood. Many of them stand today, as sound in timber and beam, and as *livable*, as they were before the Revolution. These early American homes teach us that when you build of wood and build right, the building lasts!

Wood endures—and the supply is enduring. It is the only one of our natural resources that *grows*. The mine becomes a gaping hole; the forest forever *renews*.

## Wood is beautiful

Wood possesses a pleasing natural beauty of grain and texture that mellows and deepens

with age and defies imitation. Wood can be fashioned and carved and fitted into thousands of charming designs.

And surely it is significant that the American architect prefers lumber for his own home!

## Wood is friendly

Of all materials there is none so *friendly*, with such a sense of human companionship, as wood. Wood is warm and alive to the touch. The handle of a tool, the steering wheel of your car, the arm of your chair, the bowl of your pipe—you like the feel of them because they are wood.

## Wood is economical

Wood is stronger, pound for pound, than any other material. It is easily and cheaply fitted to special forms for special needs. Its moderate cost is due today, in no small measure, to the elimination of waste. There is a grade of lumber for every purpose, a right wood for every need.

To inspire renewed and greater appreciation of wood, manufacturers of American Standard Lumber in the National Lumber Manufacturers Association are preparing an extensive educational campaign. The first thing the Association wants is a "slogan." In sending yours, please use coupon.

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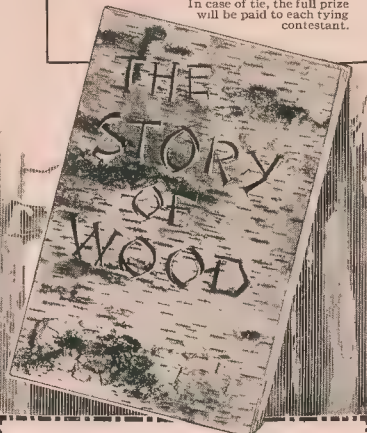
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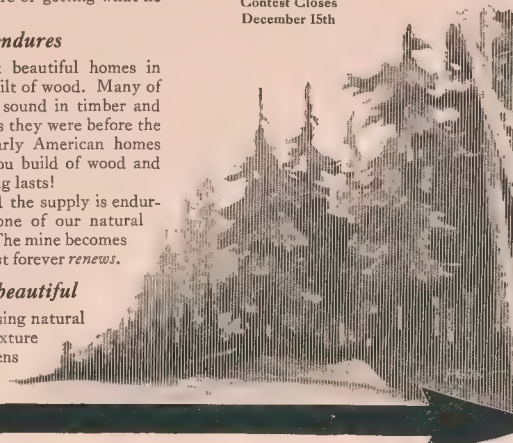
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P. C. A. 10-27



# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS MONTHLY BULLETIN

## OFFICERS

JOHN REID, JR., President  
HARRIS ALLEN, Vice-President  
ALBERT J. EVERS, Sec.-Treas.



## DIRECTORS

FRED H. MEYER, three years  
HENRY H. GUTTERSON, three years  
J. S. FAIRWEATHER, two years  
W. C. HAYS, two years  
EARLE B. BERTZ, one year  
WILL G. CORLETT, one year

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Northern California Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 1927, at 6:30 p. m., in the rooms of the Architectural Club, 523 Pine street, San Francisco. This will be the annual meeting and the Chapter will receive reports of all officers and committees, and will elect officers for the ensuing year.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

The regular meeting of the Northern California Chapter, A. I. A., was held in the rooms of the San Francisco Architectural Club on Tuesday, September 20, 1927. The meeting was called to order by President John Reid, Jr., at 7:45 p. m. The following members were present: Messrs. John Bakewell, Chas. F. Maury, Ralph Wyckoff, Jas. H. Mitchell, Henry H. Gutterson, Wm. I. Garren, Lester Hurd, James T. Narbett, Wm. B. Farlow, Chester H. Miller, Chas. F. Masten, Fred'k H. Meyer, Morris M. Bruce, Ernest H. Hildebrand, John Reid, Jr., Albert J. Evers.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as published.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no report of unfinished business.

## REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

In the absence of Chairman Bertz, Mr. Gutterson read the report of the Exhibition Committee covering the Exhibition of last May held at the Museum in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. The Committee reported that 200,000 persons had viewed the exhibit and that there was a small deficit which had been ordered paid by the Directors. Moved, seconded and carried that the report be accepted and placed on file and a vote of thanks be tendered the Committee. Moved, seconded and carried that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Trustees of the de Young Memorial Museum and to Mr. George Barron, Curator of the Museum.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

Secretary brought up the matter of group advertising, referred to Standing Committee on Public Information. Letter from the Millwork Institute of California was read and ordered placed on file. A letter from the General Contractors of San Francisco regarding quantity surveys was read and referred to a committee composed of John Bakewell, Jr., Wm. I. Garren and Wm. B. Farlow.

Secretary reported return of \$48.77 from the Sixtieth Annual Convention fund, which was returned to the general chapter fund.

A proposal to change Chapter meeting dates to corre-

spond with dates of the State Board of Architecture meetings was brought up by Mr. Bruce. Moved, seconded and carried that the meetings of the Chapter accord with the State Board meetings and that steps be taken to change the By-Laws in accordance therewith.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Honor Award Committee reported that awards were presented to recipients at Temple Emanu-El on Wednesday evening, August 31. Mr. Reid read letters from the Industrial Association officers, expressing their pleasure in cooperating in the honor awards.

Mr. Allen sent in a report, which was read by the Secretary, recommending the Chapter activities for next year.

The Nominating Committee consisting of Morris M. Bruce, Jas. H. Mitchell, G. F. Ashley, John Reid, Jr., and Frederick H. Meyer, reported the following nominations: For President, Harris Allen; Vice-President, Henry H. Gutterson; Secretary-Treasurer, Albert J. Evers; Director for unexpired term of Henry H. Gutterson, Earle B. Bertz; Director for three years, John Reid, Jr., Jas. S. Dean, Jas. Mitchell, Alternate.

Moved, seconded and carried that the report be accepted.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT J. EVERS, Secretary.

\* \* \*

## ARCHITECTS RECEIVE HONOR AWARDS

The evening of September 31 was the date upon which were formally presented the Honor Awards for the Architectural Exhibition of the Northern California Chapter, A. I. A., held in June of this year. The Temple Emanu-El, which received the first and highest honor award of the competition, was the scene of the gathering of several hundred architects, their friends and well-wishers. A program was given, comprising several short talks and musical numbers. Speakers of the evening were John Reid, Jr., John Galen Howard, Frederick Koster, Rabbi Louis I. Newman and Mayor James Rolph, Jr. Senator Boynton presented the twelve prize winners with their awards in the absence of Harris Allen, who was unable to be present, as planned.

\* \* \*

## HOUSE BEAUTIFUL COVER COMPETITION

The House Beautiful magazine announces its sixth annual cover competition and exhibition. Among the awards will be First Prize of \$500; Special Prize of \$500; Second Prize of \$250. Student prize and several honorable mentions. A copy of the conditions may be obtained from the Competition Committee, The House Beautiful, 8 Arlington street, Boston, Mass.



## MEMBERSHIP NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, A. I. A.

Following is the official list of members of Northern California Chapter, A. I. A., together with addresses and telephone numbers. The Secretary should be notified at once of any change in address or other correction.

## FELLOWS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Coxhead, Ernest, Hearst Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 5909.  
 Faville, Wm. B., 1200 First National Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 1715.  
 Howard, John Galen, Architecture Bldg., University of California, Berkeley, Calif.  
 Mullgardt, L. C., Bohemian Club, San Francisco, Franklin 2441.  
 Reid, James W., California-Pacific Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 4041.  
 Reid, Merritt J., California-Pacific Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 4041.  
 Traphagen, O. G., 2037 Alameda Ave., Alameda, Calif., Alameda 303.

## MEMBERS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Allen, Harris C., Ray Bldg., Oakland, Lakeside 3691.  
 Applegarth, George A., C. Spreckels Bldg., San Francisco, Douglas 3425.  
 Appleton, A., 68 Post St., San Francisco, Sutter 4462.  
 Ashley, G. F., 525 Market St., San Francisco, Douglas 7962.  
 Bakewell, Jr., John, 251 Kearny St., San Francisco, Kearny 358.  
 Bangs, E. Geoffrey, 360 17th St., Oakland, Oakland 1684.  
 Baur, John Albert, 251 Kearny St., San Francisco, Kearny 358.  
 Bertz, Earle B., 210 Post St., San Francisco, Kearny 2264.  
 Bliss, W. D., Balboa Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 929.  
 Blohme, J. Harry, 310 Sansome St., San Francisco, Davenport 119.  
 Bolles, Edward G., Monadnock Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 744.  
 Brown, Jr., Arthur, 251 Kearny St., San Francisco, Kearny 358.  
 Bruce, Morris M., 859 Flood Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 1143.  
 Burnett, Howard E., 1001 Balboa Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 929.  
 Cantin, A. A., 544 Market St., San Francisco, Sutter 6489.  
 Christie, John H., 65 Market St., San Francisco, Davenport 4000.  
 Clark, Birge M., 310 University Ave., Palo Alto, Calif., Palo Alto 1323.  
 Corlett, Will G., The Oakland Bank Bldg., Oakland, Glencourt 4796.  
 Cole, Chester, First National Bank Bldg., Chico, Calif.  
 Crim, Jr., W. H., 425 Kearny St., San Francisco, Davenport 1176.  
 Dean, Chas. Francis, California State Life Bldg., Sacramento, Calif.  
 Dean, Jas. Somerville, Calif., State Life Bldg., Sacramento, Calif.  
 De Longchamps, Fred J., 332 Gazette Bldg., Reno, Nev.  
 Devlin, Leo J., Pacific Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 838.  
 Donovan, John J., 1916 Broadway, Oakland, Oakland 891.  
 Evers, Albert J., 525 Market St., San Francisco, Douglas 7962.  
 Fairweather, J. S., Balboa Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 929.  
 Falch, Walter C., Hearst Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 3970.  
 Farr, Albert, Foxcroft Bldg., San Francisco, Douglas 1493.

Garren, William I., De Young Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 4317.  
 Georgeson, Franklin T., Humboldt Standard Bldg., Eureka, Calif.  
 Gutterson, Henry H., 526 Powell St., San Francisco, Douglas 1416.  
 Hays, Wm. C., First National Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 4849.  
 Hirschfeld, B. S., c/o Bakewell & Brown, 251 Kearny St., San Francisco, Kearny 358.  
 Hobart, Lewis P., Crocker Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 968.  
 Hopkins, C. Harold, P. O. Box 368, Davis, Calif.  
 Howard, Henry T., 133 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y.  
 Hurd, Lester, 210 Post St., San Francisco, Douglas 6257.  
 Hurt, Edgar B., 1001 Balboa Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 929.  
 Hyman, Samuel L., 68 Post St., San Francisco, Sutter 4462.  
 Jacobs, Alfred H., 110 Sutter St., San Francisco, Douglas 626.  
 Jeans, Raymond W., 60 Sansome St., San Francisco, Sutter 3274.  
 Kelham, Geo. W., 315 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Davenport 4327.  
 Knowles, William, 1214 Webster St., Oakland, Oakland 233.  
 Lake, Herman R., 435 Rowell Bldg., Fresno, Calif.  
 Lansburgh, G. Albert, 140 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Douglas 335.  
 Masten, Chas. F., 210 Post St., San Francisco, Douglas 6257.  
 Masten, J. Kendall, 315 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Davenport 4327.  
 Mathews, W. J., 927 Broadway, Oakland, Oakland 179.  
 Mayo, Frank V., 207 Yosemite Bldg., Stockton, Calif.  
 McDougall, G. B., Forum Bldg., Sacramento, Calif.  
 Meussdorffer, C. A., Humboldt Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 212.  
 Meyer, Frederick H., 742 Market St., San Francisco, Sutter 780.  
 Meyers, Henry H., Kohl Bldg., San Francisco, Davenport 3070.  
 Miller, Chester H., 1404 Franklin St., Oakland, Glencourt 8094.  
 Miller, J. R., 580 Market St., San Francisco, Kearny 3236.  
 Miller, Leffler B., Crocker Bldg., c/o L. P. Hobart, San Francisco, Sutter 968.  
 Mitchell, Jas. H., 277 Pine St., San Francisco, Garfield 2736.  
 Mooser, William, Nevada Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 1482.  
 Morgan (Miss), Julia, 1135 Merchants Exchange Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 4140.  
 Narbett, James T., 337 10th St., Richmond, Calif., Richmond 764.  
 Newsom, Sidney B., Nevada Bank Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 2815.  
 O'Brien, Smith, 742 Market St., San Francisco, Sutter 4630.  
 Perry, Chas. E., 460 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Davenport 3083.  
 Peugh, Wilbur D., 315 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Davenport 4327.  
 Pfueger, Timothy, 580 Market St., San Francisco, Kearny 3236.  
 Plachek, James W., 404 Merc. Bank Bldg., Berkeley, Calif., Berkeley 5932.  
 Ratcliff, Jr., W. H., Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Berkeley, Calif., Berkeley 597.

[Continued on page 57]

# INSTITUTE AND CLUB MEETINGS

**SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY**  
The Society of Architects of Alameda County held the first meeting of the fall season the first Monday in September. It was largely a business session at which were nominated candidates for an election of new officers, which took place the first Monday in October. Chester Miller, vice-president for the past year, was nominated for president. Ralph E. Wastell, who has been secretary and treasurer, was nominated for vice-president and Charles F. B. Roeth for secretary and treasurer. No names were offered in opposition to these candidates. John J. Donovan and E. Geoffrey Bangs were named as the two new men to be elected to the position of directors. Upon October 14 the organization held a theatre party in the Oakland Auditorium.

## WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, A. I. A.

Two newly elected members of the Washington State Chapter are Lancelot E. Gowen and Arthur P. Herrman. Mr. Gowen and Mr. Herrman have been for several years associate members of the Chapter and are assistant professors in the Architectural Department of the University of Washington.

As this number goes to press, the Architectural Exhibition is being held in Seattle. The Chapter, desiring to encourage the appreciation of architecture by extending its recognition of exceptional merit in any executed work, has established a series of awards to those by whose ability, skill and cooperation such works were created; the first Honor Awards to be made during the exhibition. The awards will be reported in the November number of **PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT**.

The West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau, with whom the Chapter was so pleasantly associated in connection with the recent West Coast Woods Competition, gave a dinner to the members of the Chapter and other architects, Thursday, September 29, at the Olympic Hotel.

## SAN FRANCISCO ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

The annual Atelier Dinner of the San Francisco Architectural Club, ending one year and ushering in a new one, was held September 16th.

Special honor was accorded the patrons of the organization, Mr. Ernest Weihe and Mr. Edward Frick. Guests of honor were the two Harvard Scholarship men, Mr. Rome Blas and Mr. Ted Vierra. Mr. Herbert Anderson, who was also to have been a guest of honor, was unable to attend. Our President, Mr. Howard Burnett, members of the directorate and representatives of the engineering class were also present.

Mr. Blas spoke upon architectural design and gave also a general description of the atmosphere and spirit surrounding Harvard life.

Mr. Jack Schnier, one of the guests of the Massier, gave a short, instructive talk on the relation of sculpture to architecture.

The business of the evening consisted of the election of a new Massier, resulting in Mr. Bert Lund being named for the honor, and to be assisted by Mr. Ralph Berger as Sous Massier.

Classes of the San Francisco Architectural Club for the 1927-28 season are announced at this time. They are as follows:

**Architectural Design.**—Course as outlined by the Beaux Arts. Institute of Design followed. Ernest Weihe and Edw. L. Frick, patrons. First problem of the season, issued Saturday, September 17th. Programs for the following problems will be issued in October: October 1—Class A and B, Archeology Project. October 22—Class A-II, Project. October 22—Class B-II, Equisse—Equisse.

**Classic Orders of Architecture.**—A course in preparation for the regular course in Architectural Design. James A. Magee, instructor. Class conducted the year 'round.

**Water-Color Class.**—Conducted by Mr. DeGastyne, a graduate of the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris. Class meets every Monday evening, at 7 o'clock.

**Engineering for Architects.**—Now studying reinforced concrete. Construction, steel construction will follow. Conducted by C. J. Sly, of C. H. Snyder's staff, Civil Engineers. Class meet Friday evenings at 7 o'clock.

**History of Architecture.**—A newly organized class will commence October 11. To be conducted by a graduate of the University of California.

**Classes to Be Started.**—Classes in full size details of architectural construction, contracts and specifications will be started as soon as sufficient students enroll.

## BUILDING FLOODLIGHTING

The National Terra Cotta Society, 19 West 44th street, New York City, has just published an interesting illustrated booklet entitled "Building Floodlighting and Its Possibilities with Terra Cotta." Several papers are included therein which accompanied the presentation of technical reports covering the tests made with terra cotta at the illuminating laboratory of the General Electric Company during the past year. This research has equipped all manufacturers in this society to furnish material of the highest light-reflecting efficiency. Joint conference with manufacturers and lighting experts is recommended before selecting the particular type of terra cotta surface to be employed.

On the morning of September 16th, a fire of unknown origin destroyed the old 3-story brick building housing the architectural terra-cotta department of N. Clark & Sons. The fire was brought under control before other departments were affected, and the company is now in full production of sewer pipe, drain tile, roofing tile, brick, etc. By the time of going to press, the architectural terra cotta will again be operating, though at a reduced schedule, and new work, to a limited degree, will be taken on. The company expects to build bigger and better at an early date.

N. Clark & Sons have issued a catalogue fully covering their Ramona roofing tile. This catalogue is illustrated photographically, instead of the usual line cut, and will be found of great value to the architects, contractors and owners. The company are the only manufacturers who are still laying their own tile, but will still sell to anyone else.

Smith O'Brien, architect, 49 Geary street, will return about October 17th, when he will reopen his office. He has been in Europe for the last seven months, occupying himself with the study of architecture and painting.





Assistance League Day Nursery, 5606 De Longpre Avenue, Hollywood, California. William Lee Woollett, Architect

## Safety First!

**A** DAY NURSERY must first of all be a safe place for children. It should, of course, be well designed and conveniently arranged and appointed. But above and before all it must be fireproof, weatherproof, soundproof and permanent. ¶ The beautiful new Day Nursery of the Assistance League in Hollywood abundantly meets all these requirements. From footing to ridge it is built of Simons burned-clay products — Simons brick in the walls and Simons tile on the roof.

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VOLUME THREE

[ SERIAL ISSUE OF THE INSPECTOR ]

NUMBER TEN

## SANTA ANA BUILDING LAW EFFECTIVE

After nearly three years' work by a joint committee of the Orange County Builders' Exchange, W. S. Decker, city building inspector of Santa Ana, and the building inspectors of Anaheim, Fullerton, Orange, Huntington Beach and Newport Beach, the Santa Ana city council has adopted a new comprehensive building code.

William H. Tway, president of the Orange County Builders' Exchange, spokesman for the joint committee, says the committee will continue to function until the same ordinance shall have been adopted in all Orange county cities. Orange county then will be the first county to work under a master building code applicable alike to all similar classes of construction in every city.

The building code in Santa Ana is significant because it is the only code in California written to include all the requirements of the State Housing Act. Adherence to its provisions therefore means the State housing requirements will be complied with without having to refer to any other enactment. Moreover, the Santa Ana building code is the only code written to make applicable all practical provisions of the State law to other occupancies not covered by the State law such as hospitals, construction of stairways in schools, etc.

Mark C. Cohn, consultant on housing and building regulations, was retained by the Orange County Builders' Exchange to coordinate the work of the joint committee and put the code in shape for adoption under the direction and supervision of the public officials and the Builders' Exchange. Although this work was finished more than a year ago its final adoption was delayed until last month, at which time new plumbing and electrical regulations also were adopted. All credit for this commendable piece of constructive work belongs to the public officials, Builders' Exchange and committee of practical builders, plumbers and electrical contractors in cities of Orange Co.

\* \* \*

## PASADENA CODE CHANGES PROBABLE

The creation of a special bureau to pass on the safety of furnaces and other gas-fired appliances and an ordinance similar to one recently put into effect in Los Angeles to govern the installation and inspection of furnaces are probable enactments which have been submitted for consideration of the board of city directors of Pasadena. Other changes in building regulation reported to be under consideration by the board of city directors are a new ordinance to regulate plastering and stucco work and amendments to the plumbing and electrical ordinances. The creation of a board of plumbing examiners is also a moot question in the Crown City.

\* \* \*

## CODE TO BE DISCUSSED IN ARIZONA

At the annual convention of the Building Officials' Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, on October 18 to 21, the proposed conference building code is scheduled as one of the major subjects to be discussed by inspectors of building who are members of that organization.

## SAN DIEGO TO LICENSE BUILDERS

Regulations to license builders in San Diego are looked for soon, according to Oscar G. Knecht, chief building inspector, who has submitted to the city council an ordinance to cover the various requirements. Builders would be divided into three classes, each required to post bond and pay annual license fee as follows:

Class "A" licensed builders would post penal surety bond of \$5,000 and be entitled to carry on any class of building operation. Class "B" builders would be licensed to carry on building operations the cost of which would not exceed \$15,000 and the required bond would be \$2,500. In like manner class "C" builders would post bond of \$1,000 and their operations limited to jobs the cost of which would not exceed \$5,000.

The proposed San Diego ordinance differs in some important respects from similar ordinances in other cities. The ordinance also defines building contractors, exempts owners who build private dwellings for personal use, and sets out conditions of bond so it will inure to the benefit of any party to the transaction who may suffer grievance due to violation of the building laws.

\* \* \*

## STATE PREPARES SAFETY ORDERS

The California State Industrial Accident Commission has prepared drafts of proposed safety orders regulating the use of paint spraying devices, copies of which may be obtained at the offices of the State Commission.

Following the release of the tentative orders the Commission will hold meetings in San Francisco and Los Angeles to discuss the orders with the view to final adoption. Two committees, representative of those interests who would be directly affected by the new safety orders, are reported to have cooperated with State officials. Others who have not participated in drawing up the regulations may familiarize themselves with the content of the proposed rulings by securing copies before the dates of the next meetings are announced.

\* \* \*

## L. A. ADOPTS COUNTY BUILDING LAW

The Los Angeles county board of supervisors has set a precedent for the passage of county regulations not unlike municipal codes for building and zoning. A general ordinance on these subjects enacted by the county board of supervisors is said to be the first code of its kind to regulate building and uses of properties outside of incorporated cities. It is regarded as a step toward comprehensive regional zoning. A bureau of building permits is to be established in the office of the county regional planning commission. Branch offices for the issuance of building permits will be established in each district fire house.

\* \* \*

Contemplated to raise the standards for plastering, lathing and stucco work in Glendale, California, the city council adopted an ordinance reported long to have been urged by H. C. Vandewater, chief building inspector.



## THE INSPECTOR

## Architects' Law Ruling by Attorney-General

[BY MARK C. COHN]

Expert Consultant on Housing and Building Regulations

(This is the twenty-eighth of a series of articles on building codes.)



HAT the spirit and intent of the California State law regulating the practice of architecture is being violated by a class of unlicensed practitioners is the conclusion to be drawn from an opinion written by U. S. Webb, State Attorney-General of California. Ultimate decision will rest perhaps in whether the courts sustain the ruling of the Attorney-General. Careful analysis of this ruling makes apparent its far-reaching effect. If pursued to a logical conclusion, it would affect a greater number of companies and individuals than might be supposed.

In this series of articles much has been written on the subject of misleading appellations attached to names of firms and individuals who prepare and sell plans for building without openly making known the fact they are "uncertificated" architects or designers.

## VIOLATORS NOTIFIED

Notices calling attention to the ruling of the Attorney-General are reported to have been mailed to a number of alleged violators of the law by the State Board of Architecture. It remains to be seen if these alleged transgressors of the law will acquiesce or precipitate court action to test the Attorney-General's interpretation.

The published opinion of the Attorney-General addressed to the California State Board of Architecture follows:

"You have asked my opinion concerning the legality of certain titles or designations assumed by those who are practicing architecture without a license.

"The answer to your inquiry involves a consideration of the terms and provisions of the act creating a State Board of Architecture (Deering's General Laws 1923, page 137). This act was approved March 23, 1901 (Statutes 1901, page 641), amended in 1903 (Statutes 1903, page 522). Section 5 of the act provides in part as follows:

## STATE LAW IS VALID

"After the expiration of six months from the passage of this act, it shall be unlawful and it shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, for any person to practice architecture without a certificate in this State, or to advertise, or put out any sign or card, or other device which might indicate to the public that he was an architect; provided, that nothing in this act shall prevent any person from making plans for his own buildings, nor furnishing plans or other data for buildings for other persons, provided the person so furnishing such plans or data shall fully inform the person for whom such plans or data are furnished, that he, the person furnishing such plans, is not a certified architect. . . ."

"The constitutionality of this act was brought into question in the case of *Ex parte McManus*, 151 Cal. 331, and in a carefully considered opinion the Supreme Court of California upheld the act and declared it to be constitutional.

"Again in the case of *Binford vs. Boyd*, 178 Cal. 458, the

act was before the Supreme Court of California, and in the opinion of the court it was said that the law could be upheld upon the theory that the Legislature believed that it was injurious to the public interest to allow unskilled and unqualified persons to prepare plans and specifications for the erection of buildings, owing to the dangers which might arise from defects in plans or construction.

"In a still later case this act was before the District Court of Appeal in *Payne vs. De Vaughn et al.*, 49 C. A. D. 848 (246 Pac. 1069). In that case there was involved a contract in writing between De Vaughn et al., as parties of the first part, and J. F. Payne, architectural engineer, as party of the second part. The agreement provided that the party of the second part should make all necessary plans and specifications, supervise the bids from subcontractors and supervise the construction of a proposed building. The compensation agreed upon amounted to four per cent of the total cost of the building if erected, otherwise the sum of \$200 for sketches and services. The parties of the first part contracted with another architect and the building was erected pursuant to his plans and specifications. Payne sued on the contract and obtained judgment, from which an appeal was taken. The Appellate Court held that the services contracted to be rendered by Payne were those of an architect, citing the case of *Bacigalupi vs. Phoenix Building and Construction Co.*, 14 Cal. App. 632. The court said that the act in question forbade the practice of architecture by an unlicensed person and held that Payne had practiced architecture in contravention of the provisions of the act regulating the practice of architecture and therefore the contract upon which he sought a recovery was illegal and void.

## MISLEADING APPELLATIONS

"The purpose of the act is clearly to prevent persons from holding themselves out, either by advertising or otherwise, in such a way as to lead the general public to believe that they are architects, unless they are certificated under the act.

"Specifically answering the questions contained in your inquiry, it is my opinion that violations of the spirit and intent of the act are committed by uncertificated persons who advertise as follows:

"1. (a) John Smith, architecture. (b) Architecture by John Smith.

"2. John Smith, architecture and building.

"3. John Smith, architecture and engineering.

"4. (a) John Smith, architectural designer. (b) John Smith, architectural engineer.

"5. John Smith, architectural draftsman.

"6. John Smith, architect (Unc.).

"7. John Smith, designer of homes.

"8. John Smith, designer and builder.

"I am also of the opinion that the act is not violated by uncertificated persons who advertise as follows:

"1. John Smith, architect (uncertificated).

"2. John Smith, designer.

"With reference to the last designation, 'designer,' we are assuming that this designation is used unassociated with architectural work."

## THE INSPECTOR

### Ask THE INSPECTOR

*Under this heading are published questions and answers dealing with building problems. Herewith are published a number of queries asked of The Inspector and the answers. Pop the question. Your name will be omitted if you wish.*

### Tell THE INSPECTOR

*This column is dedicated to kicks and comments. Names omitted on request. Right is reserved to publish or reject any complaint received. Give name and address in evidence of good faith. This department is open for constructive criticisms.*

#### POSSIBLE ARREST FOR FRAGRANCY

*Q. I own an old brick building built about 20 years ago. The building is two stories high with 17 rooms on each floor rented to a . . . who operates it as a rooming house exclusively for . . . lodgers. There is a public toilet on each floor, but only one bath, which is located on the first floor.*

*The health and sanitary inspector has notified me it will be necessary to build two new bathrooms and install bathtubs. He says the State Housing Law requires these improvements.*

*A builder and engineer, who is a friend of mine, told me the law cannot be enforced in an old building built long before the law was passed and which complied with the laws of that time. Furthermore, I have told the health inspector that the costly improvements would be wasted because the tenants would not use the baths. Seldom if ever do they use the bath that is now available and it would answer all purposes in case they should care to use it.*

*I would be obliged to you to please tell me if the State law on housing can be made to apply to my building under the circumstances mentioned in this letter.*

A. Under the State Housing Act of California a building of the type described by you would be classified as a "hotel." The State law mentioned is retroactive in a case of this sort. It specifically provides that in an existing hotel ("heretofore erected") there shall be installed not less than one bathtub or shower, in a separate compartment, located in the public hallway, for every 20 guest-rooms or fractional part thereof, which are not provided with private baths. The law also provides that such baths or showers shall be located on the same floor, and accessible from the public hallway, as the rooms served.

In this case it appears that one additional bathroom or shower on the second floor would suffice to comply with the minimum requirements of the State Housing Law. However, the law further provides that the enforcement department may exempt any building existing at the time of the passage of the act from fully complying with the above-mentioned requirements when in its discretion such deviation will not be detrimental to the health of the occupants, sanitation of the building or premises, or it is impractical to comply fully because of structural reasons that may exist in the building.

\* \* \*

#### SANTA BARBARA PRINTS CODE CHANGES

Recent changes in the building and zoning ordinances of Santa Barbara are available in printed pamphlets issued by the city clerk and in the office of the building department. The city council will serve as a board of appeals to hear complaints and grant relief to builders in cases where the provisions of ordinances are deemed manifestly inapplicable to situations that may arise.

\* \* \*

Edward Hyatt, Jr., chief of the division of water rights, has been elevated to the position of Acting State Engineer of California. His appointment was made by the Director of the State Department of Public Works after Paul Bailey, former State Engineer, resigned that post.

#### HOUSE LINING IS REQUIRED

For the better insulation and weatherproofing of stucco plastered houses the Los Angeles board of building and safety commissioners, under the provisions of a local plastering ordinance, requires that buildings be lined with asphalt saturated waterproof building paper.

When buildings are sheathed with wooden boards the waterproof paper, which must weigh not less than 14 pounds to 100 square feet, is placed over the sheathing, tacked and lapped shingle fashion. If gypsum-centered plasterboards are used to sheath the building, the waterproof paper is placed back of the plaster boards.

On buildings to be stucco plastered without solid sheathing, horizontal wires must be placed 6 inches apart, stretched taut across the outside face of studs and covered with at least one layer of 14-pound asphalt saturated and coated waterproof building paper. The coated paper, too, is acceptable in buildings of the solid sheathed type.

Plastering contractors initiated the movement to have the city officials standardize on the use of not less than 14-pound asphalt saturated building paper for house lining in order to insure better stucco plastered exteriors, which apparently are in popular demand, especially for home building.

The Los Angeles requirements seem to offer a suggestion which can profitably be made the minimum standards for stucco work in other cities where house lining either is not being used or flimsy building paper not sufficient in weight to insulate effectively and weatherproof the job is used.

\* \* \*

#### SAN DIEGO APPROVES PLASTER LATH

The San Diego city council, following recommendation offered by Oscar G. Knecht, chief inspector of building, has adopted an amended plastering law to approve and legalize the use of fire-resistive plaster lath not less than  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch thick. The  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch type of approved fire-resistive plaster lath is required in positions where fire-resistive construction is prescribed by ordinance, which is the same standard heretofore prescribed in the building code and plastering ordinance of San Diego and the State Housing Act of California.

\* \* \*

#### POMONA DISCOVERS ANT DAMAGE

That termites have wrought destruction to wooden timbers in buildings is the disclosure reported by Pomona, where the white-ant menace has suggested recommended changes in the building code after inspection was made of a school building which indicated that some of the structural timbers had been honeycombed and eaten away by white ants.

\* \* \*

#### OCEANSIDE CODE EFFECTIVE

L. W. Robinson, in charge of building and plumbing inspection in Oceanside, California, urges cooperation in the enforcement of the requirements of building, plumbing, and electrical ordinances adopted recently by the board of trustees of that city.





ENTRANCE, HOTEL MARK HOPKINS, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. WEEKS AND DAY, ARCHITECTS  
*Executed by Michel & Pfaffner*

# ART IN IRON & BRONZE

## DOORS AND DOORWAYS



ANY artistic crimes have been committed in America in the name of ironwork. While lack of designing and discriminating ability is largely responsible, certainly much of the unhappy result is due to ignorance of the proper treatment of metal; inasmuch as we frequently find cast iron masquerading as wrought, and vice versa, the attempt to produce in wrought iron forms that can be adequately rendered only by casting.

Without going into the process too technically, wrought iron is hand-worked on an anvil, hammered while it is hot or cooling; while cast iron is poured in a hot liquid state into moulds. It follows that wrought iron is an assemblage of small members tied together, but a very large casting may be made in one piece. This obviously renders cast iron more generally useful

for structurally supporting members, wrought iron for purposes of protection, separation, ornament, accessory use.

The shape of cast iron, mass and detail, naturally follows that of other structural materials, stone or wood; it does not rely upon the irregularity, the varying curves and thicknesses and surfaces which give to wrought iron so much of its charm. In fact we must admit that no matter how well modeled the moulded, how crisp and deep the casting, the essential charm of handicraft is lacking. However, good cast iron has beauties of its own, and there is always the interest of the material itself, with its varied effects possible, of polished high lights contrasting with dull lower surfaces; the values of repeating motives, panels, bands, borders; the infinite variety of polychrome effects.

All this may seem to be far removed from doors and doorways. However, inspection of the illustrations given herewith, of locally executed ironwork, will show that consideration has been given to the foregoing principles. Most of this work is cast, and rightly so. The two examples of wrought iron (which happen to be grill work ornamenting and protecting glass doors to high-class residences—where the elements of structural use and guard against theft or damage are not factors) show bona fide qualities of handicraft applied appropriately. The excellent execution of cast detail, crisp and delicate, indicates an expert understanding of its legitimate application. The confusion that has existed as to the proper use of these forms of a valuable material is being corrected by a closer coordination between designer and manufacturer; and while the most satisfactory modern examples are based upon historic precedent, the growing use of metal should lead to new forms and uses which will express modern inspirations.

\* \* \*

### PLASTER LATH APPROVED FOR CLASS "A"

Fire-resistive plaster lath  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch thick attached to metal studs and plastered to make solid partitions is an approved type of construction for class "A" buildings recently approved by the municipal board of building and safety commissioners of Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

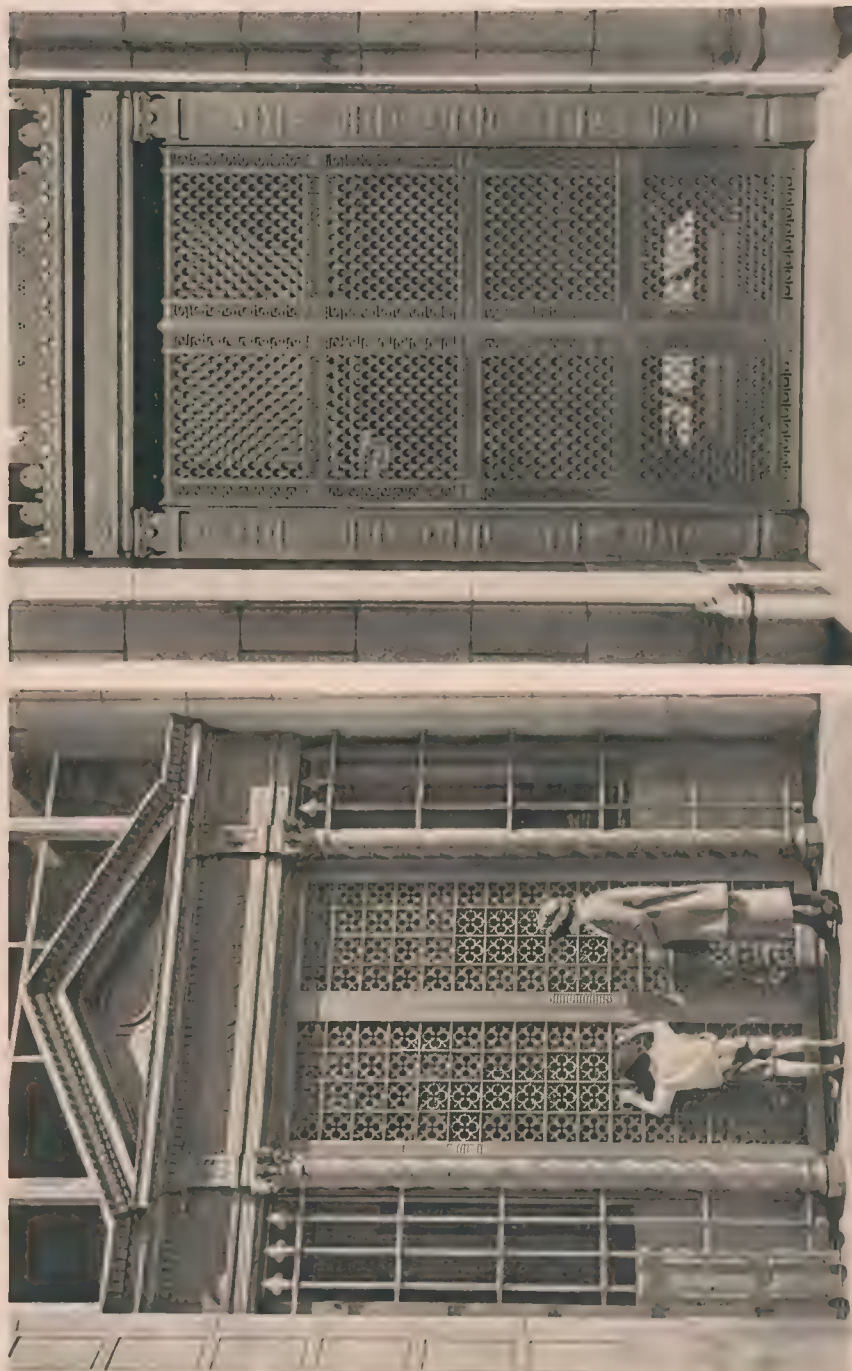
### HANFORD SEEKS BUILDING CODE

More stable and fire-resistive construction would obtain in Hanford, California, if the recommendations of Fire Marshal C. E. Kendall for a restrictive building ordinance are adopted by the city council.



Left—Bronze Elevator Doors, Pacific Southwest Building, Fresno, Calif. R. F. Felchlin Co., Architects.  
Right—Bronze Elevator Doors, Berkeley Chamber of Commerce. Wm. H. Ratcliffe, Architect.  
Executed by Sartorius Company, Inc.





RIGHT—BRONZE ENTRANCE AND BRONZE DOORS, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, GED W. KITHAM, ARCHITECT

LEFT—BRONZE ENTRANCE AND BRONZE DOORS, BANK OF CALIFORNIA, PORTLAND, OREGON, A. E. DOYLE, ARCHITECT

Executed by Serrurier Company, Inc.



LEFT—ENTRANCE, RESIDENCE OF CAPT. F. OLSON, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. C. O. CLAUSEN, ARCHITECT  
RIGHT—WOLFSKILL RESIDENCE, SAN FRANCISCO. BLISS AND FAVILLE, ARCHITECTS

*Executed by Michel & Pfeiffer*





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Geo. W. Kelham, Architect

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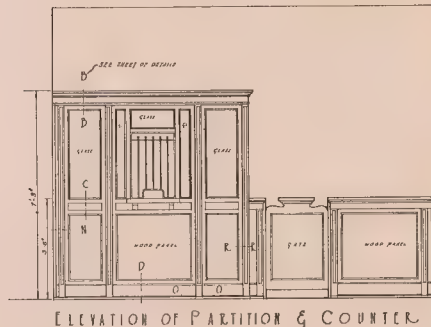
SEATTLE



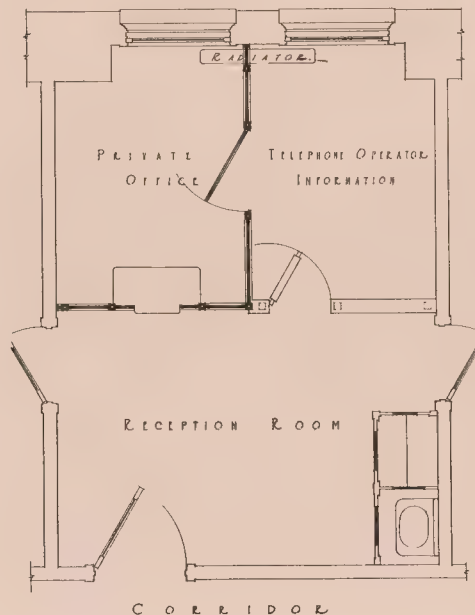
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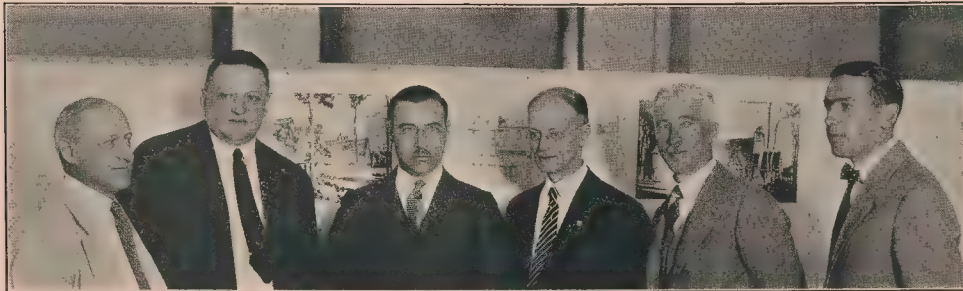
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Monadnock Bldg.  
Sutter 395

OAKLAND  
353 Hobart St.  
Glencourt 7850

BERKELEY  
2108 Shattuck Ave.  
Berkeley 4160

SAN JOSE  
58 W. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose 1375

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*Jury of Award.* Left to right are: W. R. B. Willcox, Director of the School of Architecture, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon; Henry C. Hahn, New York City; Louis C. Jaeger, New York City; Emery Stanford Hall, Chicago; David J. Myers, Seattle, Members of the Jury; and J. Lister Holmes, Seattle, Professional Adviser.

### REPORT OF THE JURY OF AWARD

[Concluded from page 9]

found to be impossible or inaccurate developments from the plans.

The Jury of Award deems it proper to add that consideration of the intent of an author in use of materials, as set forth in individual statements permitted under the terms of the competition, entered largely into its decisions; while questionable detailing in cases where the design was susceptible to practical treatment was not regarded as a determining factor.

In general, the Jury of Award feels that this competition is worthy of emulation as a means to, and as a definite and strong encouragement of, better wood architecture, for which Mr. C. W. Stimson, the West Coast Lumber Bureau, and the Washington State Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, who respectively proposed, offered, and sponsored it, are entitled to the commendation of the lumber industry, the architectural profession, and the public.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS C. JAEGER,      DAVID J. MYERS,  
EMERY STANFORD HALL,      HENRY C. HAHN,  
W. R. B. WILLCOX, *Chairman.*

\* \* \*

### MEMBERSHIP NORTHERN CALIF. CHAPTER

[Continued from page 44]

Reed, Walter D., The Oakland Bank Bldg., Oakland, Oakland 1627.  
Reid, Jr., John, 60 Sansome St., San Francisco, Sutter 3274.  
Rushforth, Geo., 354 Pine St., San Francisco, Kearny 4733.  
Ross, T. Patterson, 310 California St., San Francisco, Kearny 4216.  
Sawyer, Houghton, Hearst Bldg., San Francisco, Douglas 3156.  
Shea, Will D., 454 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Sutter 2084.  
Sheldon, Martin A., Monadnock Bldg., San Francisco, Calif., Douglas 3445.  
Simpson, Horace G., Call Bldg., San Francisco, Sutter 1328.  
Skillings, Warren, Garden City Bank Bldg., San Jose, Calif.  
Symmes, Edwin J., 713 Shreve Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 6377.  
Upton, Louis M., 454 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Kearny 4429.  
Ward, Clarence R., 310 Sansome St., San Francisco, Davenport 119.

Weeks, Chas. Peter, 405 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Davenport 2636.  
Wilkinson, Wm. J., 220 Howard Ave., Piedmont, Calif., Piedmont 2054-W.  
Wyckoff, Ralph, Growers' Bank Bldg., San Jose, Calif.  
Yelland, W. R., 1404 Franklin St., Oakland, Glencore 8094.

### ASSOCIATES, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Ambrose, Wm. Clement, 9 Brookside Ave., Berkeley, Berkeley 4527-J.  
Bartges, Wm. K., 505 Mercantile Bank Bldg., Berkeley, Berkeley 2829.  
Bliss, W. M., 1001 Balboa Bldg., San Francisco, Kearny 929.  
Farlow, Wm. B., 58 Sutter St., Room 737, San Francisco, Sutter 3200.

[Concluded on page 61]

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1940 lin. ft.

PEWS

CHAPEL

AND

AUDITORIUM

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*Vice-Pres.*

CAMILLE HELD  
*Sec.-Treas.*

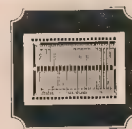


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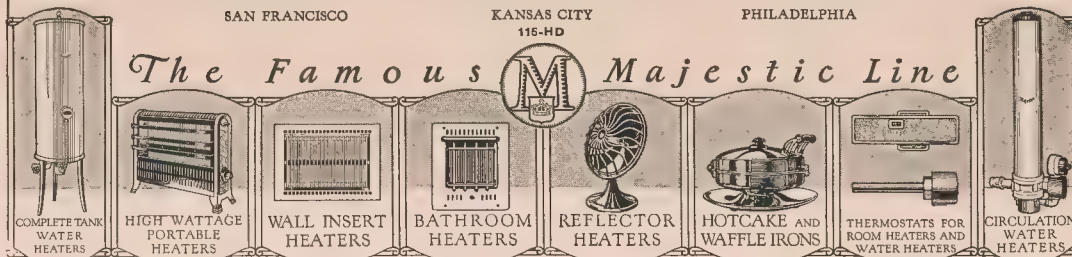
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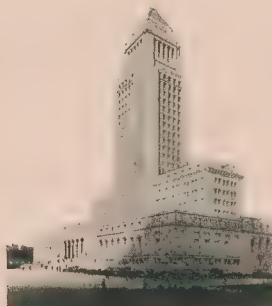
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[Concluded from page 57]

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Douglas 6135.  
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field 5046.  
Maury, Chas. F., 210 Post St., San Francisco, Kearny  
2264.  
McCool, John B., 1304 Bernal Ave., Burlingame, Calif.  
Perry, Warren C., 260 California St., San Francisco, Daven-  
port 6389.  
Reimers, Frederick H., Tribune Tower, Oakland, Glen-  
cort 3900.  
Stringham, Roland I., 260 California St., San Francisco,  
Davenport 6389.  
Tantau, Clarence A., 210 Post St., San Francisco, Sutter  
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Thayer, O. R., 110 Sutter St., San Francisco, Sutter 2125.

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Molera, E. J., 2025 Sacramento St., San Francisco, Gray-  
stone 7521.

\* \* \*

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South Pasadena. Mr. Stockburger is now city manager in  
Alhambra. Mr. Roen formerly was city manager of  
Ontario, California.

\* \* \*

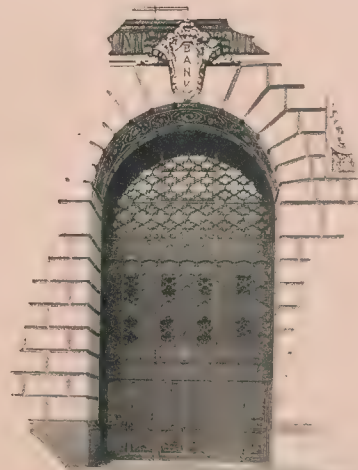
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lated by amended section 24 of Ordinance No. 261, put  
into effect by the adoption of Ordinance No. 270 in  
Azusa, California.

\* \* \*

H. F. Wegnori, for more than 33 years building inspector  
of San Bernardino, California, died last month at the age  
of 82. Mr. Wegnori resigned the post of building in-  
spector about two years ago.



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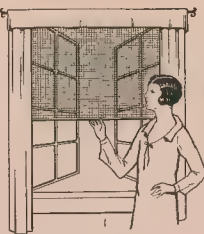
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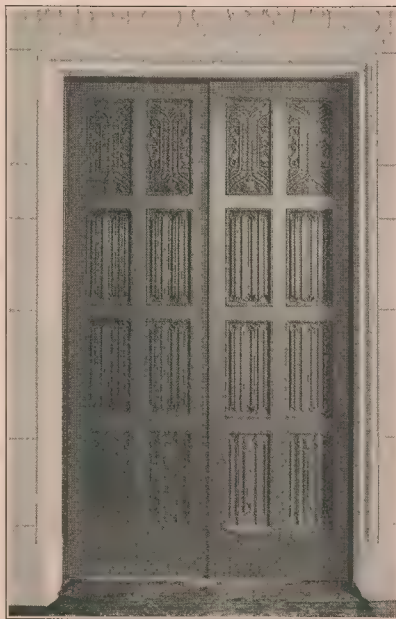
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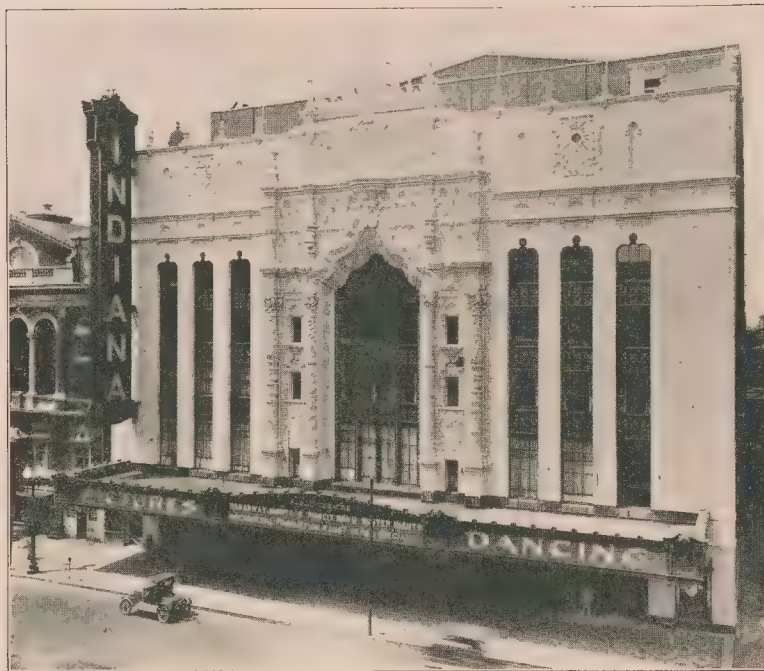
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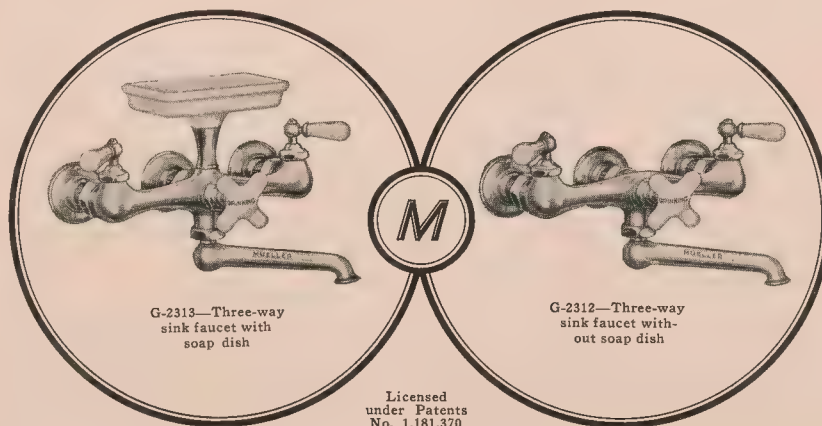
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The Lake Merritt district is the center of much activity in apartment building. The Enos Tower Community Apartments is one of the most recent projects for this district to be announced. R. G. de Lappe is the architect.

Crescent cork coverings are described in a new booklet published by the United Cork Companies, Lyndhurst, New Jersey.

Requests for back copies of PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT are continually received so that our files have been entirely depleted of some numbers. We have a request for January and March, 1925, and will gladly pay for copies sent in to us.



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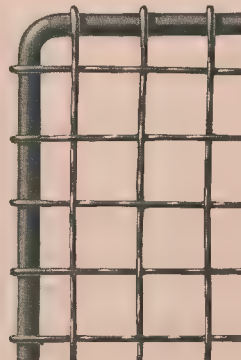
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\* \* \*

Addison Mizner, architect, was a recent visitor to San Francisco. He is preparing plans for a residence at Santa Barbara for Henry Dietrich of New York.

\* \* \*

The electric refrigeration industry has a business newspaper, "Electric Refrigeration News," which is published fortnightly in Detroit.

\* \* \*

"The History of the Radiator" is the title of a folder published by the American Radiator Co., 816 South Michigan avenue, Chicago.



C. E. Toberman Building, Hollywood. Meyer & Holler, Contractors  
[Hand-chased Lobby Screens and Doors]

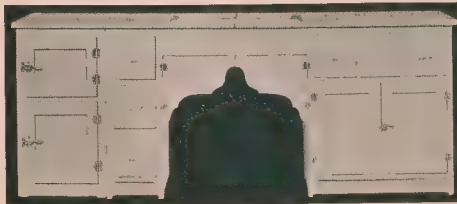
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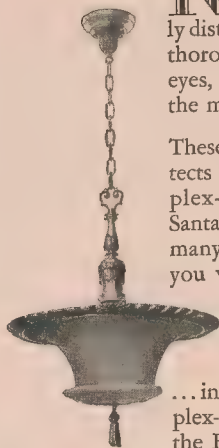
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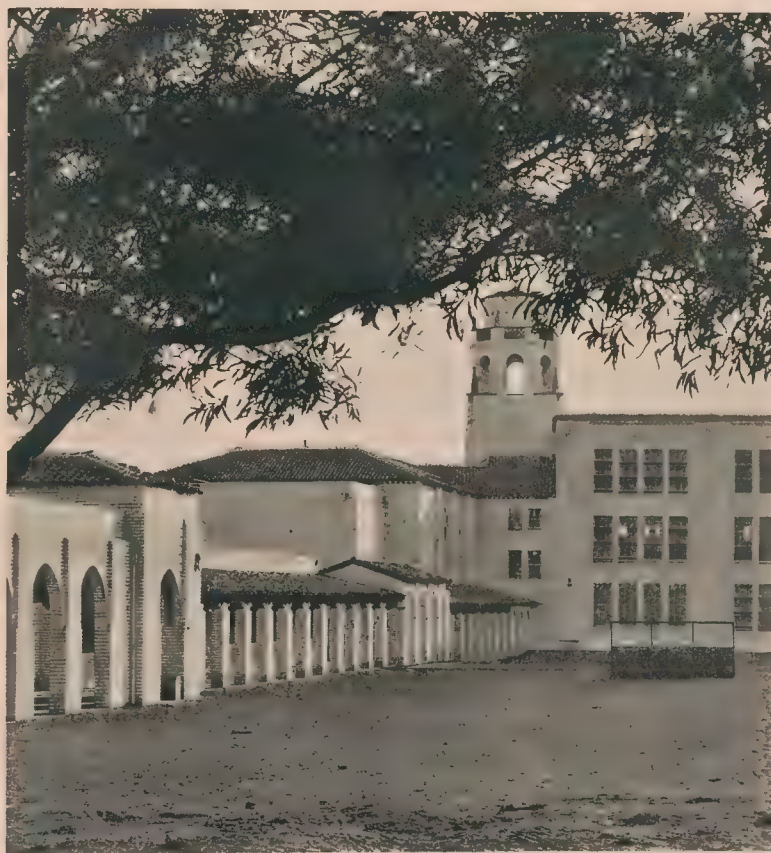
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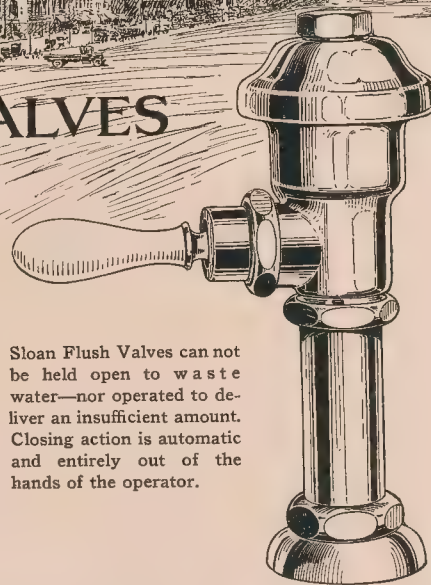
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# PACIFIC · COAST · ARCHITECT

## WITH WHICH THE INSPECTOR IS COMBINED

VOLUME XXXII · SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES · NOVEMBER 1927 · NUMBER FIVE

### THE W. P. FRICK SCHOOL—*A Study in Creative Duplication*

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]



HERE has been much sharp criticism of the practice of exactly or approximately duplicating and copying the architecture of the Old World. The so-called futuristic spirits of the art world make a plea for the free play of the creative spirit to the end of evolving new, typically American art and architectural forms. On the whole, this movement is desirable and worthy of attention and sympathy, for those affiliated with it often give us ideas and symbolisms of singular virility. These ideas, these flashing bits of beauty and detail, we may embody in whole or in part in current works, so saving the bulk of our creations from falling to the dead level of monotony.

But there is one point largely overlooked by these caustic critics of today's architecture and architects. That is, that copy, duplication and collation of architectural details and structures, long ago executed by European and other peoples, can have in it elements of genuine creativeness. Duplication, collection and combination of various exact details, is, in its ultimate expression, something of a fine art. It is not a haphazard art, for the builder or architect must go to his sources in the spirit of a seeking student. He must absorb their spirit as well as their outward forms. He must, as it were, sit humbly at the feet of the master.

When he comes to reexecute what he has seen and observed, he must not do it woodenly, blindly and without intelligent adjustment of his inspirations to their new environment and purposes. He must labor to fuse the inspiration of another worker with inspiration of his own—with movement, rhythm, character, symbolism or what you will that is of his mind and the fruit of his own pondering over and understanding of the original work.

As proof that architectural duplication can achieve the status of a fine art, we show this month the W. P. Frick Junior High School in East Oakland, the work of Architects Blaine & Olsen. The structure represents an assemblage and accurate duplication of executed works, gleaned from first-hand study of various Spanish

sources. In its interior and exterior the Frick School is a museum, authentically presenting the finer aspects of the architectural arts and crafts of Old Spain, and the student of these subjects may turn to it with the assurance that the work is pure in spirit and craftsmanship. There is, in all America, probably no other building of its kind, no project of its size and significance, so completely true to the European traditions inspiring it.

Yet this building in its own right and light possesses creative interest. It does not stand stolidly without appeal to the intelligence or sense of beauty. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that the work is a growth, the slow blending of many inspirations gathered by the architects during a year's stay abroad in 1922 and 1923, six months of which were spent in Southern Spain and Northern Africa. While the two men were busily sketching and photographing bits of detail and architectural compositions that caught their fancy, and making exactly measured and scaled drawings of things that appealed particularly, they had no thought of the Frick School in mind, or how they might make use of the material being gathered. They merely absorbed and lived with the environment in which they found themselves.

When the school commission came to hand, it appeared as an opportunity to build not just the Spanish type of school now so common to California, which it must be admitted has degenerated into a somewhat standardized, nondescript affair, but a school truly expressing Old Spain. The Spanish sketches were brought out. There was among them complete details of the tower of Santa Maria la Mayor in Ronda, Spain—a stately thing, whose history is replete with the ironies of human nature and history. The building and part of its tower were built 1100 years ago as a Moorish mosque. Later by proper addition to the height of the tower, Christian conversion and decree of the Pope, no doubt, it became a Roman Catholic church.

A part of the tower, its moldings and finials, exactly duplicated, is now the point of focal interest of an American school, a structure

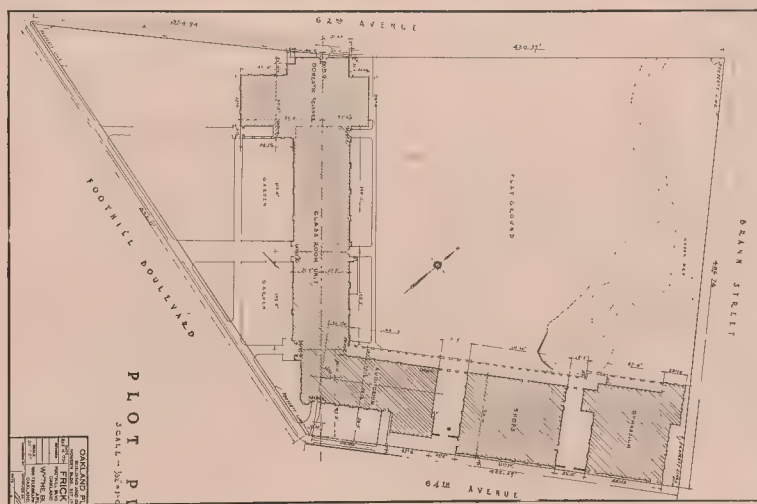
[Concluded on page 31]





W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

and Hainley



W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

Photos by Waters and Hatlin





W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Waters and Hainlin*



ABOVE—DOMESTIC SCIENCE WING; BELOW—PORCH, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by Waters and Hainlin*





AUDITORIUM WING FROM PLAYGROUND, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Waters and Hainlin*



AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Waters and Hubbs*





MAIN ENTRANCE, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Waters and Hannin*



TOWER ENTRANCE, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Waters and Hainlin*





TOWER DETAIL, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

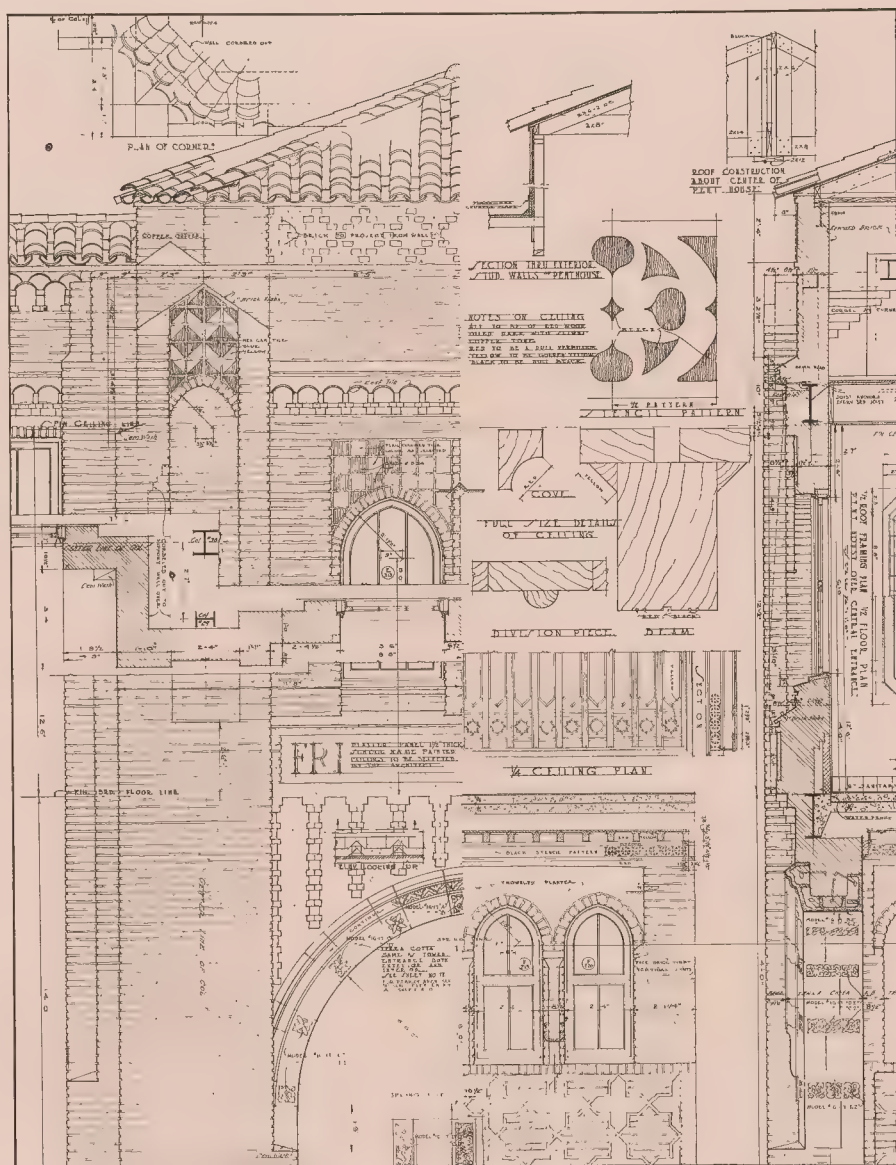
*Photo by Waters and Hainlin*



AUDITORIUM, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS

*Photo by Waters and Hainlin*

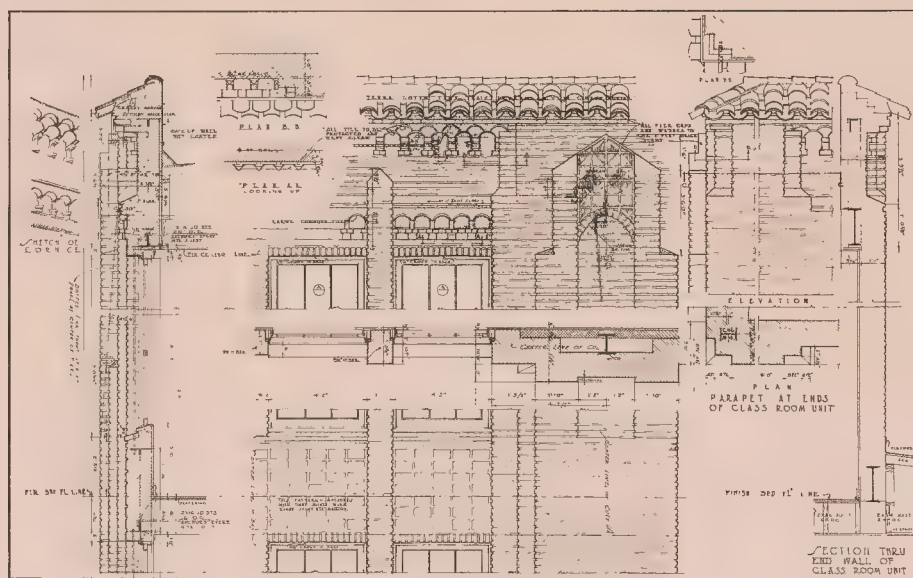
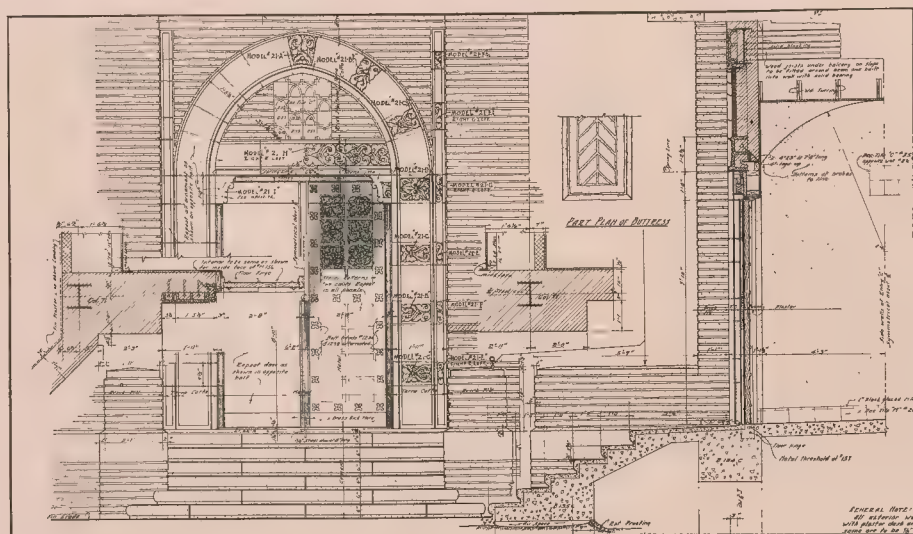




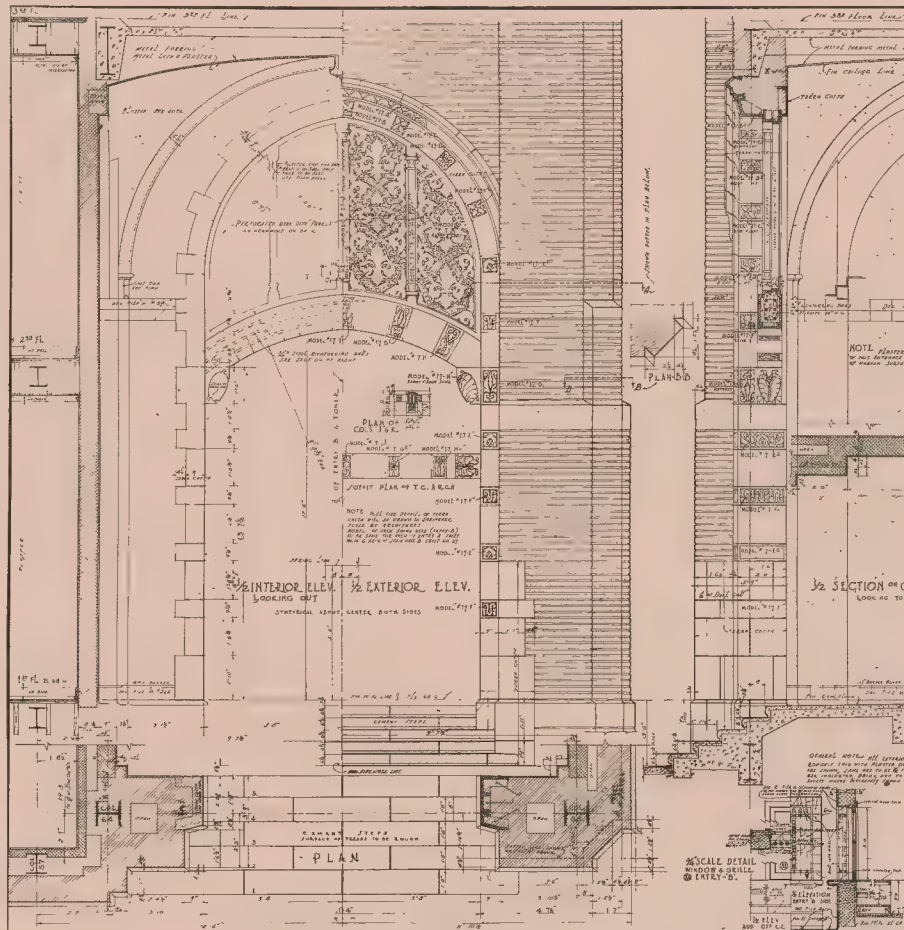
DETAIL, MAIN ENTRANCE, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS







ABOVE—DETAIL AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE; BELOW—DETAIL MAIN ENTRANCE; W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS



DETAIL, TOWER ENTRANCE, W. P. FRICK SCHOOL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
WYTHE, BLAINE AND OLSEN, ARCHITECTS





AHWAHNEE HOTEL, YOSEMITE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA. GILBERT STANLEY UNDERWOOD, ARCHITECT  
SKETCH BY FRANCIS TODHUNTER

*Plate, courtesy of H. K. McCann Co., San Francisco*

# THE PLACE OF THE HOTEL IN THE MODERN CITY

[ BY GUY WILFRID HAYLER ]



FORMER PRESIDENT TAFT once said, "Hotels mark the development of a city," and with this in mind one can definitely assert that no city plan or scheme for community building is at all complete which ignores the tremendous influence which hotels exert. From the days of the earliest inns, at which wayfarers stopped, to the monster caravansaries of today, city progress has unquestionably been marked by the sense of hospitality which greets the stranger within her gates. And in the twentieth century the city cannot do justice to itself unless it provides not merely hotels but really exceptional, first-class ones. Mere ordinary hotels no longer fill the bill. Just as the city planner sees to it that residential districts are well designed and that the railroad station is central, adequate and attractive, so therefore must the hotels be equally worthy in every way of the community which they represent as the city's hosts. It is little use for a city to plan or advertise itself unless it considers this great fundamental fact. Chambers of commerce and other civic bodies are becoming more than ever alive to the paramount place of the hotel in the modern city, and in few other States is this more important than in California, which is increasingly attracting tourists from the entire world.

The following is a list of great hotels erected in California in recent years. They represent a total cost of millions of dollars and contain over 10,000 rooms. The list is by no means complete. Nevertheless it is very expressive of the wide-awake cities, and if statistics were available would undoubtedly show the direction of tourist travel.

City	Hotel	Year Erected	Cost
Alameda	Alameda	1927	\$ 350,000
Anaheim	Angelina	1924	120,000
Bakersfield	El Tejon	1926	625,000
Brawley	Dunlack	1926	275,000
Brawley	Planters	1926	300,000
Calexico	Calexico	1927	200,000
Del Monte	Del Monte	1926	1,000,000
El Centro	Barbara Worth	1926	300,000
El Centro	Balboa	1925	85,000
Eureka	Eureka	1922	350,000
Fresno	Californian	1924	1,500,000
Fullerton	California	1923	190,000
Glendale	Glendale	1925	544,000
Glendale	Maryland	1925	150,000
Hollywood	Chrystie	1923	1,150,000
Hollywood	Dupont	1926	125,000
Hollywood	Gilbert	1926	125,000
Hollywood	Hollywood Plaza	1925	1,250,000
Hollywood	Regent	1924	255,000
Hollywood	Wilcox	1926	185,000
Hollywood	Mark Twain	1925	110,000
Indio	Indio	1925	175,000
Long Beach	Breakers	1926	1,500,000
Los Angeles	Biltmore	1922	7,000,000
Los Angeles	Cecil	1924	1,700,000
Los Angeles	Commodore	1923	1,000,000
Los Angeles	Figueroa	1926	1,500,000
Los Angeles	Hayward Annex	1926	750,000
Los Angeles	Rosslyn Annex	1923	1,650,000
Marysville	Marysville	1926	425,000
Modesto	Covell	1924	250,000
Monrovia	Aztec	1925	250,000
Monterey	San Carlos	1926	650,000
Oakland	Leamington	1926	2,000,000
Palo Alto	Cardinal	1924	250,000
Pasadena	Constance	1926	450,000
Petaluma	Petaluma	1924	375,000
Richmond	Carguinez	1924	225,000
Sacramento	Senator	1924	2,500,000
San Bernardino	Antler	1924	250,000
San Bernardino	California	1927	500,000
San Diego	Casa de Manana	1924	450,000

San Francisco	Californian	1924	\$1,000,000
San Francisco	Commodore	1924	250,000
San Francisco	Governor	1926	500,000
San Francisco	Lombard	1926	225,000
San Francisco	Mark Hopkins	1926	5,000,000
San Francisco	Roosevelt	1926	500,000
San Jose	Sainte Claire	1926	1,200,000
San Luis Obispo	Anderson	1923	210,000
San Mateo	Benj. Franklin	1927	700,000
San Pedro	Miramar	1926	135,000
San Pedro	Cabrillo	1923	75,000
Santa Ana	Santa Ana	1922	200,000
Santa Barbara	Carrillo	1923	550,000
Santa Monica	New Miramar	1924	500,000
Stockton	Wolf	1925	100,000
Susanville	Mount Lassen	1926	155,000
Tracy	Tracy	1926	85,000
Ventura	Ventura	1926	160,000
Whittier	William Penn	1924	250,000
Yosemite	Yosemite National Park	1927	800,000

Besides the California record as above, in the State of Oregon there have been more than 20 hotels built since 1924 and in the State of Washington 18 erected. In Florida and through the Southern States the building of new hotels has been phenomenal. However, in spite of all this, no one who travels can fail to notice there are yet a great number of cities and towns which still need a good hotel. The memory of many places is marred by this defect. City developers in numerous sections of the country are now giving the closest attention to the provision of hotels, as essential elements in their development plans.

The readers of Dickens or Thackeray would say that the hostelries of England expressed the native congeniality of the people. They did! And the slow transportation by stagecoach made it essential that they should partake of that character. They were family hotels in the best sense of the word. In the modern American city this character is still retained, but it is broadened out into a democratic interpretation of the family as a community institution. First, the hotel stands for the entertainment and comfort of its guests. Second, it stands as the nucleus around which their pleasures and business pursuits center. And third, it stands as the embodiment of the spirit of the city, which enters into the life of visitors in many ways, as the hotel serves as the headquarters of local societies and the scene of local functions. It is therefore imperative that the hotel shall have the maximum of local standing, an indefinable dignity which can only be attained by careful and well-thought-out design and location, coupled with an appreciation of the form of public service which the community has a right to demand of it.

Suppose we consider as an illustration the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles. These facts will show that the financial stake, employees, purchasing power, etc., establish at once the value of the hotel to the up-to-date city.

The Biltmore cost six million to construct, exclusive of site, and the furnishings cost an additional million. It employs 1200 persons, representing 900 families; \$500,000 per month is brought into Los Angeles by this hotel alone. Conservative estimates place the total brought into the city by the hotels of Los Angeles at over two millions per month.

The purchasing power of this hotel is exhibited when it is known that in a typical month there are purchased 77,000 pounds of meat, 47,000 pounds of poultry and 280 barrels of flour. Over 1,500,000 pieces of linen are laundered, 2000 pounds of soap used and 259,000 kilowatt hours of electricity consumed; 210 gallons of paint are used and 200 yards of carpet replaced. These are all big expenditures of money which flow directly into trade,

[Continued on page 55]





AHWAHNEE HOTEL, YOSEMITE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA. GILBERT STANLEY UNDERWOOD, ARCHITECT



AHWAHNEE HOTEL, YOSEMITE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA. GILBERT STANLEY UNDERWOOD, ARCHITECT





AHWAHNEE HOTEL, YOSEMITE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA. GILBERT STANLEY UNDERWOOD, ARCHITECT



THE GRAND BALLROOM OF THE HOTEL MONTELEONE, DALLAS, TEXAS





# DECORATIVE NOTES [A SERIES]

## *The Application of Flat Painted Ornament*

THE PRESENT VOGUE for Spanish painted ornament on wood and plaster has led to a demand for skilful craftsmanship in reproducing the naivete, mellow coloring, soft blending, that give charm to the Spanish originals. (An oriel window and balcony in the National Broadcasting Studio, San Francisco, was decorated on Philippine mahogany in typical Spanish colors, glazed and antiqued. (Schultze and Weaver, Architects. (A. Quandt & Sons, [since 1885] Painters and Decorators, 374 Guerrero St., San Francisco

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# INTERIOR DECORATING

## AMERICAN SCENERY IN DESIGN

[BY R. AMORY]



IF NOT A LITTLE INTEREST to interior decorators and art lovers have been the tapestries, rugs, leaded glass and colored motifs assembled for Yosemite National Park's new million-dollar hotel, The Ahwahnee Lodge. The entire designing is in keeping with traditional decorations used by the California Indians, and was transcribed and adapted under the direction of Arthur Upham Pope and Dr. Phyllis Ackerman, consultants. The work was done by Jeanette Dyer Spencer (whose six stained-glass windows, interpreting Indian themes conventionally transposed in angles and colors, enrich and lighten the lounge), Jesse Sawyer, Robert Boardman Howard, Henry Howard, Ernest Born, and M. B. Roller. Mr. Roller's wrought-iron work in Indian motifs shows unusual development in spacing and fitness.

Months were spent by world-famous experts in the preparation. Hundreds of rare and costly rugs from all

parts of the world cover the floors of halls and guest-rooms. These include brightly woven "khilums" from the Caucasus, of the early nineteenth century, the patterns in which are strikingly in accord with the Yosemite Indians.

A large "toile Peinte" (painted tapestry) is a distinguished feat accomplished by Robert Boardman Howard. It reflects the character of the late fifteenth century, and hangs in the Gothic writing-room between the heights of tall windows framing the walls of the valley. Well handled, indeed, is the series of wild-flower, bird and animal depictions, peculiar to the Yosemite region, and introduced against a deep-blue background. The distinctive manner in which the subjects are arranged, and the botanical and zoological knowledge displayed by the artist, convince the beholder that the composition involved much careful study. Each arrangement of petal, leaf and growth habit stands out in its characteristic accuracy. Mountain wild flowers in their native, radiant colorings appear in the natural profusion of which the purple lupine, leopard, elk and mariposa lilies, penstemon, Indian paint brush, fern and columbine are only a few. Bear, cougar, deer, badger, weasel, skunk, squirrel, chipmunk and mice people the forest floor, peering and posing beneath cone-tipped pine, aspen, bur-oak and alder. Above them in the branches flutter bluejay, owl, pheasant and yellow warbler.

\* \* \*

### A STUDY IN CREATIVE DUPLICATION

[Concluded from page 9]

dedicated essentially to things practical and far removed from Eastern philosophies and European ecclesiasticism. But even so, there are few who may find either artistic or symbolical discrepancies between its present purposes and environment and its original purposes. Thus does architecture bring happy consummation to the diverse currents of man and his history.

Over the main entrance is a great grille of terra cotta. It is the duplicate of a Moorish design found in a Granada building. The design of the auditorium ceiling, which is painted upon roughly hewn beams, is likewise a pure and exact copy of a Moorish original.

About the building are a multitude of small details which have been executed in faithful exactness to the sources inspiring them. The cornices are of brick and reversed and projecting tiles—a treatment little employed in American construction because of the time and expense involved. But here we see that both are justified in the massiveness and strength created and the play of shadows cast upon the walls. The faience tile used liberally throughout the building comes from Spain, Turkey, Africa and Mexico. The white-washed brick walls are the last light touch. Lacking this, the whole would be startlingly obvious and repellent, but with it, it is quietly and powerfully subtle—a place that tempts us to explore further that we may know it intimately.

\* \* \*

The Haws Sanitary Drinking Faucet Company, Inc., Berkeley, California, has recently prepared a new catalogue, covering their complete line. A request for Catalogue "L" will bring a copy.



Tapestry, Ahwahnee Hotel  
Painted by Robert Howard





ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL, WAIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, T. H. WARREN AND WETMORE, ARCHITECTS



CORNER OF MAIN LANAI, ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL, WAIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, T. H.  
WARREN AND WETMORE, ARCHITECTS





EAST AND WEST COURTS, ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL, WAIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, T. H.  
WARREN AND WETMORE, ARCHITECTS



ABOVE—LOUNGE; BELOW—LANAI; ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL, WAIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, T. H.  
WARREN AND WETMORE, ARCHITECTS





ABOVE—BALLROOM; BELOW—DINING ROOM; ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL, WAIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, T. H.  
WARREN AND WETMORE, ARCHITECTS



ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL, AIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, T. H.  
WARREN AND WETMORE, ARCHITECTS



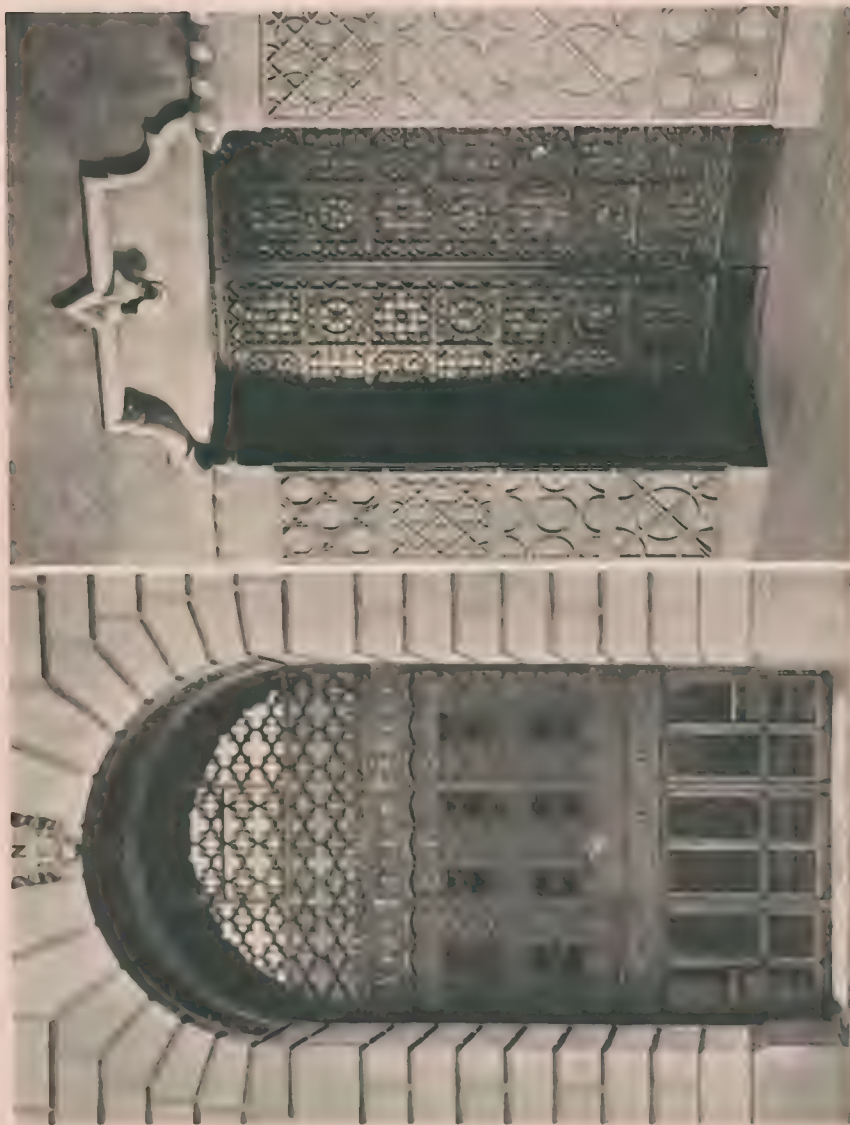


ABOVE—LIBRARY AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES  
BELOW—DORMITORY FOR MEN, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA  
GEORGE W. KELHAM, ARCHITECT



AUDITORIUM AND CLASS ROOM, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES. ALLISON AND ALLISON, ARCHITECTS  
GEO. W. KELHAM, SUPERVISING ARCHITECT





California State Capitol Building  
Designed by the Architectural Firm of Works

Pacific National Bank Building  
Designed by the Architectural Firm of Works

# ART IN IRON & BRONZE

## MORE DOORS

**T**HERE is such great latitude in the treatment of a door, such almost unlimited variety of paneling and modeling, of style, of scale, of color, of texture, that it is not surprising that frequently doors have escaped entirely from their frames, from their appropriate part in the composition of the entire facade or wall.

Structurally the doorway is more important than the door; and in architectural design the same thing is usually true, as, in fact, the doorway may be the accent, the most important single element of a composition.

Yet it is also the case that the doorway is made for the door, as the cabinet for the jewel. It requires a discriminating judgment, as well as designing ability and a thorough knowledge of styles and of the possibilities of the material, to harmonize properly these various factors, and to produce a result that is artistically satisfying in mass and in detail.



Wetherby Keyser Shoe Co. Bldg., Los Angeles  
*Executed by Architectural Iron Works*



Quinby Building, Los Angeles  
*Executed by Architectural Iron Works*

The accompanying illustrations show extremely different solutions, all more or less successful, all very creditable examples of modern craftsmanship. How these doors and doorways fit into their ensembles can not be shown in a detail view; but that careful consideration has been given to this point may be deduced from the good sense of scale revealed. The different treatment of cast and wrought metal is obvious, and its suitability to its setting.

While these photographs indicate the play of light and shade, high or low relief, relative values of surfaces and ornament, and so on, it is of course impossible to realize the color scheme. Colors and gilding play an increasingly important part in ornamental metal work. However, that is a subject which can well be left to a later and special discussion.





*Above, Left* Klein Norton Co., Shop, Los Angeles

*Above, Right*—Hellman Bank Building, Los Angeles  
 Executed by A. J. Bayer Co.

*Below, Left*—Roosevelt Building, Los Angeles  
 Executed by A. J. Bayer Co.

*Below, Right*—Petroleum Security Bldg., Los Angeles  
 Executed by A. J. Bayer Co.

## EDITORIAL

### *A Royal View of Architecture*

THE Prince of Wales, at the last Annual Dinner of the Royal Institute of British Architects, responded to a toast with some comments—opinions—which were so much to the point, and so applicable to conditions in this country, that we take the liberty of quoting His Royal Highness:

"We, none of us, can escape from architecture, whether it be good, or whether it be bad. We are surrounded by architecture; we are affected by it every day of our lives. If our architects are dull and uninspired, we are condemned to live in ugly, ill-constructed buildings; we are compelled to go about our daily businesses in drab and ill-planned cities, towns and villages. But if our architects can give us surroundings that are both good to look at and good to dwell in, the difference in our general well-being and our outlook on life is wonderful. . . .

"The architect differs from other creative artists in this great point; he cannot begin to create until the community gives him his chance. The painter can paint a picture—it may be a very bad picture, but he still has the hope that some silly fool will come and buy it. The musician can start playing, on the chance of collecting an audience. But the poor architect cannot go out and build a town hall, or a hospital, or even a cottage, without a definite commission to do so. He cannot even start building a pig-stye or a reptile house or a monkey house, unless someone has a pig or a reptile or a monkey to put into it. The work of the architect is not the production of drawings, but the erection of buildings. And if this country wants beautiful houses it must employ the best architectural designers. If it wants noble public buildings, it must give the collective genius of this great profession a free opportunity to compete for them. . . ."

From whatever source the Prince collected his data, his own breezy and acute personality has given a vivid touch to a universal problem.

\* \* \*

### *Modern Archæology*

SOME of the great buildings of the Old World have been reproduced, almost to an entirety, in this country. There was a period, too, when the designs of individual rooms were lifted indiscriminatingly, mixed together in one building in an amazing patchwork; Americans are

notoriously fond of mince pie. Exact copies of details are far from being unheard of.

Seldom, if ever, has such a process been followed, as is described elsewhere in this journal, with a California school. Here a great number of Spanish details, carefully measured from the originals, have been combined in an ensemble which is distinctly not a copy of any building; which was planned to accommodate the specific requirements of a modern educational system; whose exterior composition is a comprehensive unit, embracing a large number of parts which are very cleverly welded together into a harmonious whole.

This use of European details may be criticized, but the architectural ability shown in plan, design and execution is unquestionably of a high order.

\* \* \*

### *A Lesson Pointed by Tragedy*

FIVE lives were sacrificed recently in San Francisco when a "hotel," a flimsy fire-trap, was destroyed by fire.

These are the facts:

Inspection in San Francisco is handled by seven men, as against many times that number in Los Angeles, and, in fact, most cities of that class.

The local building code has been "whittled down" to the point where it is ineffective to prevent the construction of buildings that are fire menaces.

Attention has been called, repeatedly, to this serious situation.

Architects have urged intelligent revision of the code, and increase in the number of inspectors; it would seem timely for them to renew their recommendations.

\* \* \*

#### NEW WEST COAST LUMBER OFFICES

Announcement is made of the removal of the general offices of The West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau to Longview, Washington. District offices will be maintained in Seattle and Portland.

\* \* \*

#### APPOINTED KELVINATOR REPRESENTATIVES

The Dickey-Kelvinator Sales Company, 949 Mission street, San Francisco, has been appointed Northern California distributor for Kelvinator electric refrigerators.

\* \* \*

The Fifth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., was held at Pinchurst, North Carolina, October 25-29, 1927.

\* \* \*

The General Electric Company announces removal of their San Francisco office to the Russ Building in that city.





*John A. Dunker Home, Palo Alto, Calif. Wells P. Goodenough, General Contractor. Birge M. Clark, Architect*

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JAMES S. DEAN, three years  
EARLE B. BERTZ, two years  
FRED H. MEYER, two years  
J. S. FAIRWEATHER, one year  
W. C. HAYS, one year

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Northern California Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, will be held on November 29, 1927, the last Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m., in the Hotel Mark Hopkins. Dinner will be served at \$1.50 per plate.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Northern California Chapter, A. I. A., was held in the rooms of the San Francisco Architectural Club on Tuesday, October 18, 1927.

The meeting was called to order by President John Reid, Jr., at 8 p.m. The following members were present: Jas. H. Mitchell, Lester Hurd, Ralph Wyckoff, Wm. K. Bartges, Wm. B. Farlow, Wm. Arthur Newman, A. Appleton, Fred'k H. Meyer, Morris M. Bruce, Ernest Coxhead, Warren C. Perry, Fred'k H. Reimers, Wm. I. Garren, E. G. Bangs, H. H. Gutterson, Harris Allen, John Reid, Jr., Geo. W. Kelham, E. S. Norberg, J. S. Fairweather, Chas. F. Masten, Albert J. Evers.

Mr. Harris Osborn was present as the guest of Mr. Ernest Coxhead.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

## REPORT OF OFFICERS

The President read his annual report, which was ordered received and placed on file.

The Secretary read the annual report of the Board of Directors and of the Secretary-Treasurer, both of which were ordered received and placed on file.

A committee, consisting of Jas. H. Mitchell, H. H. Gutterson and Wm. I. Garren, was appointed to audit the Chapter's accounts and report at the next meeting.

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

*Committee on Practice:* Mr. Wm. Corlett being absent his report was read by the President. The committee had no extensive activity to report.

*Committee on Legislation and Building Laws:* Mr. Fred H. Meyer, chairman, read a very complete report, showing activity in connection with other organizations in regard to the Inspection Department of the San Francisco Board of Public Works and with State building laws.

*Committee on Relations with Coast Chapters:* Mr. G. B. McDougall being absent the President read his report, showing no activity on the part of the committee during the past year.

*Committee on Public Information and Entertainment:* Mr. Harris Allen, chairman, made a comprehensive report showing that the Honor Awards constituted a splendid medium for public information; also a brief outline of the year's entertainments.

*Membership Committee:* Mr. Wm. C. Hays, chairman, being absent his report was read by the President. The re-

port showed a splendid growth during the year for the Chapter, especially in Institute memberships, and recommended extended activity for the future.

*Committee on Education and Library:* Mr. Warren C. Perry, chairman, read the report of this committee. The library at the Club is in good condition except for three missing volumes. Some small repairs are recommended by the committee. A checked list of books is appended to the report. Education at the Club is at present functioning well, but some additional courses, especially in history, may be advisable at a not-far-distant date. Mr. Perry also reported regarding the School of Architecture at the University of California, of which he is director.

*Committee on Civic Improvements:* No report was presented by this committee.

*Committee on Competitions:* Mr. John Reid, Jr., chairman, read the report of this committee, reporting only one projected competition, which did not materialize.

*Committee on City Planning:* Mr. Ernest Coxhead, chairman, read a report showing some activity in cooperation with other bodies and making recommendation for future activity.

*Committee on Industrial Relations:* Mr. George Kelham, chairman, presented a report of this committee, showing cooperation with the Industrial Association throughout the year and the important part the Chapter has had in industrial relations of the building trades.

*Exhibition Committee:* Mr. Earle B. Bertz, chairman, being absent the report of the committee was presented by Mr. Harry Gutterson. The committee can point with pride and the Chapter find great satisfaction in the Exhibition last May in Golden Gate Park Museum and in the Honor Awards, culminating in the meeting at Temple Emanu-El on August 31. The President commended especially the activities of this committee.

*Committee on Uniform Code:* Mr. Wm. Mooser, chairman, being absent Mr. Jas. H. Mitchell read the report of the committee, showing great progress and recommending continuance of the committee.

All of the above reports in due sequence were ordered received and placed on file.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Special Committee on Quantity Surveys reported progress through Mr. Wm. I. Garren.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Allen, chairman Committee on Public Information, reported progress in the matter of group advertising.

The amendment proposed at last meeting and regularly published was brought up for consideration. The amendment reads as follows: "The annual meeting of this Chapter shall be held on the last Tuesday in October." Moved, seconded and carried.

[Concluded on page 63]





Two residences at Orange Grove Ave.  
and California St., Pasadena.  
Mr. Dwight Hamlin, Owner  
Everett O. Babcock, Architect  
J. J. Brintnall, Contractor  
R. G. Blessing, Roofing Contractor

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# INSTITUTE AND CLUB MEETINGS

## SAN FRANCISCO ARCHITECTURAL CLUB



THE GROWTH and development of organizations are generally marked by change and progression. Therefore our Club must be growing if recent changes are a criterion. Our recently elected director, Mr. J. H. Devitt, has left to gain some Eastern experience and Mr. C. J. Sly, our efficient and exacting instructor in structural engineering, has been chosen to fill his place.

The Atelier has taken on the atmosphere of a well-ordered and business-like institution of learning since Mr. Bertel Lund was chosen massier.

The new House and Library Committee, with Mr. Rudolph Igaz as chairman, have made marked improvement in the appearance of the library by working out a system of controlling the use of the books.

The class in Water-Color Rendering took a new lease on life when the students began to realize what a wonderful opportunity was slipping by them, and Messrs. DeGastynne and Weihe have responded with enthusiasm.

The new publicity manager—well, judge for yourselves.

The persistent efforts and fine work of the students in design, shown in the last problems of the 1926-27 season, were well rewarded, J. H. Devitt, Bertel Lund, Rudolph Igaz and Ralph Berger receiving first mention. The patrons, Messrs. Ernest E. Weihe and Edw. L. Frick, as well as the students, are to be congratulated for this fine showing.

We must again express our appreciation to the Columbia Steel Corporation for that delightful and instructive inspection trip to their plant at Pittsburg on October 12th. The original suggestion for this trip came from Mr. C. J. Sly, our instructor of structural engineering, and to Mr. Ira Springer, chairman of the Entertainment Committee, goes the honor of having made flawless arrangements. Through his efforts and the courtesy of the Columbia Steel Corporation, the sixty members who took the trip were furnished transportation to and fro, entertainment, and a fine dinner all free of charge.

Leaving San Francisco at 5:00 p.m., the party arrived in time for dinner at Pittsburg at 7:00 p.m. Three short speeches by officers of the Columbia Steel Co., Mr. John D. Fenstermacher, vice-president; Mr. Louis Sloss, secretary, and Mr. Wm. Cohn, assistant superintendent, first welcomed the party, outlined the history and growth of the company, and then gave some statistics and technical data as an introduction to the tour of inspection. This tour of the shops proved to be a brilliant and spectacular affair. Tapping a huge open-hearth furnace, filling the ingot molds, the flow of liquid fire and the colorful sputtering and spouting of fountains of fire, due to escaping gases, are scenes that will not be easily forgotten. The transformation of 8-inch by 8-inch ingots into ¼-inch reinforcing bars, the rolling of thick plates of steel into their sheets ready for the galvanizing bath, and the stamping of wire nails, all left indelible impressions whose educational value can not be overestimated. The orderly sequence of the various operations, and the systematic routing and handling of the materials was in itself a demonstration of the necessity of good planning and effective organization. The trip was a splendid success

and we thank the Columbia Steel Corporation for having made it possible. We look forward to other trips of this nature.

\* \* \*

## LOS ANGELES ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

The late September meeting of the Los Angeles Architectural Club was marked by the nomination of officers for the coming year—the election to take place in late October. George P. Hales was the sole nominee for president, for vice-president Mr. Olch and Edward Musa were named, for secretary Raymond Wyatt and Edward Musa, and for treasurer Lloyd Rally.

\* \* \*

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, A.I.A.

Meeting in the new offices of Weber, Staunton & Spaulding during the latter part of September, the Southern California Chapter, A. I. A., was the guest of the above-named firm and the members present were served with an Italian dinner. In memory of the late Arthur B. Benton, founder of the Southern Chapter, A. I. A., a resolution of condolence was voted. Other pending business matters were referred to the several standing committees, to be considered and reported upon later.

\* \* \*

## OREGON CHAPTER, A.I.A.

A special meeting of the Oregon Chapter, A. I. A., was called for mid-September, the occasion being the presence in Portland of A. H. Albertson, Regional Director. Albertson gave a talk of an informal and inspirational nature, dealing with the work of the Institute and outlining the duties and functions of its officers and committees. A program of winter activities has been prepared, which will be announced shortly.

\* \* \*

## ALAMEDA COUNTY SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

At the October meeting of the Society of Architects of Alameda County the following officers were elected for the forthcoming year: Chester Miller, president; for vice-president, Ralph E. Wastell, and for secretary and treasurer, Charles F. B. Roeth, John Donovan and E. Geoffrey Bangs were elected to positions on the directors' board.

The organization has under consideration a proposal of the East Bay Industrial Association which is seeking to have the architects endorse its open shop plan and a labor wage scale, relating to all workers in the building and allied industries. No action has as yet been taken on the association's proposition.

\* \* \*

## CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE

At the meeting of the State Board of Architecture, October 25, 1927, the following were granted certificates to practice architecture in this State: James S. Arnot, Pacific Southwest Bldg., Fresno, Calif.; Wm. F. Gunnison, 1666 Golden Gate avenue, San Francisco, Calif.; Harris Osborn, Examiner Building, San Francisco, Calif.; Gardner A. Dailey, 425 Mason street, San Francisco, Calif.; Wm. C. Mahoney, 2762 Pierce street, San Francisco, Calif.; Harry J. Scott, 2340 Filbert street, San Francisco, Calif.



Charles W. McCall, *Architect*Welsh & Welsh, *General Contractors*Wm. J. Baccus, *Brick Contractor*

# The Albert Brown Mortuary

Oakland · California

Built  
of **Cannon's Face Brick**

AN INTERESTING face brick building is pictured above. Built of Cannon's 2x12-inch Roman Brick in pink and red, spotted with buff, it attracts the eye.

The architect and the owner are to be congratulated upon using "America's Finest Face Brick." Surely they are well pleased. Would not you be?

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# THE INSPECTOR

TRADE-MARK AND TITLE REGISTERED IN UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

COMBINED WITH PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT AND EDITED BY MARK C. COHN

VOLUME THREE

[[ SERIAL ISSUE OF THE INSPECTOR ]]

NUMBER ELEVEN

## CHIEF INSPECTOR HORGAN DIES

John P. Horgan, long recognized as one of the foremost among building inspectors, died at his home in San Francisco on October 10.

Mr. Horgan was born and raised in San Francisco, and for more than 20 years officiated as the chief of the building department. He joined the city service as a building inspector in 1903. Prior to that time he was connected with the building trades.

The building fraternity mourns the loss of a conscientious public official and a good friend.

\* \* \*

## CENTRALIZED INSPECTION URGED

With the support of a large number of civic, technical and business organizations the board of building and safety commissioners of Los Angeles is seeking to have the city council enact proper legislation to place under its jurisdiction the inspection of boilers, elevators and all mechanical equipment installed in buildings. Heretofore a separate board of mechanical engineers has operated to carry on inspection activities which are sought to be transferred to the building department.

\* \* \*

## ABERDEEN GETS VOLUMINOUS CODE

The longest ordinance ever submitted to the city council is reported to have been presented at a recent meeting of that body in Aberdeen, Washington. The ordinance, designed to regulate the construction of building, made a bulky document of 243 typewritten pages with 457 chapters of legal and technical phraseology. It was taken under advisement in order to afford the councilmen time to read the code leisurely.

\* \* \*

## U. S. ADOPTS BUYING RULES

The United States Veterans' Bureau has issued instructions to medical officers in charge of its hospitals to adhere to the simplified practice recommendations in making all future purchases of supplies and equipment for the various hospitals for the disabled veterans.

In the instructions to the medical officers, the Director of the Bureau, Brigadier-General Frank T. Hines, Reserve Corps, stated: "It is obvious that the benefit to be derived from any simplification is directly proportionate to the degree of adherence it receives and the Veterans' Bureau expects cooperation from the medical officers in its effort to eliminate waste."

The simplified practice recommendations cover vitrified paving brick, metal lath, files and rasps, smooth and rough face brick, common brick, range boilers, woven-wire fencing, woven-wire fence packages, milk bottles and caps, hollow building tile, structural slates, roofing slates, lumber, forged tools, builders' hardware, asbestos paper and asbestos millboard, hot-water storage tanks, steel reinforcing bars, sheet steel, eaves, trough and conductor pipe, concrete building units, sand-lime brick, tissue paper, cut tacks and small cut nails and sidewalk, floor and roof lights.

## TORNADOES, QUAKES AND LAUGHS

Damage wrought by tornado in St. Louis last month has been estimated anywhere between \$50,000,000 and \$75,000,000. Loss of life was reported to be more than 80 victims. Hundreds were injured.

This unfortunate disaster emanated from elemental forces beyond the control of humans, but in a way it is interesting to note that by comparison the loss of life in this tornado was about 20 times greater than has been suffered in California from earthquakes during the past 20 years.

The property damage, too, perhaps will amount to about 10 times the damage from earth tremors in California in 20 years, or since the loss caused by earthquake and attendant conflagration in San Francisco in April, 1906.

We haven't heard anybody say that they will no longer go East or hesitate to visit the Middle West because of the sad occurrence in St. Louis. Yet when California enjoys one of its early morning shimmy-shakes the alarmists begin predicting dire things and promptly attempt to legislate the quake out of the earth. Perhaps if the real truth were known, earth tremors in California are mere echoes of Mother Earth's hearty laughter at the futile efforts of man.

\* \* \*

## L. A. UNIVERSITY JOB UNDER WAY

What is considered the prize job of the year in more ways than one is under way for the University of California near Los Angeles, work having been begun by J. C. Bannister and Frank Gow, associated general contractors, soon after the contract was awarded by the board of regents of the university. Allison and Allison, architects of Los Angeles, prepared the plans for the auditorium and class-room building; George W. Kelham, San Francisco architect, made the plans for the library edifice, which are the two major structures of a number of edifices that will comprise the group of university buildings to be reared on the campus in Westwood, immediately adjoining the city of Los Angeles. Sketches of these buildings are shown on another page of this issue.

The entire project will be carried on under the direct supervision of George W. Kelham, supervising architect for the University of California. It is asserted the new units and campus of the university in Los Angeles will be a model from the standpoint of utility, design and construction, as well as aesthetically.

The general contract for the two major structures was awarded to Bannister and Gow at a figure just below \$1,500,000. Messrs. Bannister and Gow are well and favorably known in building circles and their previous training and practical experience as structural engineers and building contractors should serve them to carry through this big job. The two men formerly were employed as inspectors and engineers in the Los Angeles Municipal Division of Building.



## THE INSPECTOR

## FIRE MENACES CAN BE ELIMINATED

[BY MARK C. COHN]

*Expert Consultant on Housing and Building Regulations*

(This is the twenty-ninth of a series of articles on building codes)



**FIVE MEN DIE IN FIRE**—Burned to Death." Not a pleasant headline to appear in the newspapers the opening day of National Fire Prevention Week last month. But that is what happened in San Francisco when an old three-story lodging house gutted by fire snatched the lives of five human beings and sent three other victims coursing to hospitals, seriously injured. And there were only 18 persons in the building. That the same thing did not happen about the same time in a lot of other cities is fortunate, but there is no assurance that a still worse catastrophe may not occur, even before this article goes to print.

As long as public officials and public apathy tolerate conditions that obviously are unsafe, such grim tales of loss of life are bound to recur. San Francisco has suffered other fires during the past few years, also with loss of life, in structures of a similar character as the one here discussed. Yet there is no evidence that any satisfactory improvement was ordered made in the building that burned or many other cheap rooming houses known by the inelegant classification of "flop-houses," where nightly are housed large numbers of men who through force of financial circumstances must seek shelter in such places.

## FIRE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE

It seems incredible to believe that in this enlightened age human beings are housed in cubicles no larger than closets separated by partitions of tinder-like boards, chicken wire and cheese-cloth and paper.

The building here discussed is reported to have been unequipped with fire-escapes, although three stories high. And its general construction is best illustrated by the description given by one of the first lodgers awakened the night of the fire, who said that "fire seemingly was everywhere at once."

Much has been published in this series of articles to indicate there is great need for vigilant inspection and proper control of building through the avenue of adequate yet reasonable legislation that would largely minimize the ever-present danger to life and property from fire.

## NO FIRE-ESCAPES

There are ample precedents to show it is legal to enact laws applicable to existing or old buildings which are manifestly unsafe for human occupancy and fire hazards to the community.

Assuming that in the building here discussed loss of life would have been averted if it had been equipped with outside fire-escapes, it is interesting to note as an example what was done in Los Angeles a few years ago. In that city there were several score buildings of three or more stories in height without fire-escapes. A building ordinance was passed and made specifically applicable to existing structures. The ordinance was enforced intelligently, aggressively and without fear or favor, with the result that about 800 fire-escapes were installed in old buildings.

There are some economic and physical reasons why all building laws cannot be made to apply uniformly in cases of old buildings. But there are no reasons why *intelligently compiled* building ordinances cannot be made to apply to nearly any building and thereby establish reasonable requirements for safety of life and property. It is not a problem easily solved in the heat of passion and public indignation such as usually follows a fire that entails loss of life. But surely it is possible to accomplish something during a period of 20 years. The building that burned in San Francisco was built, according to public reports, soon after the big conflagration of 1906 and conformed to the inadequate laws of that date.

## EXPERT SERVICE NECESSARY

Cities often employ experts to conduct surveys and offer recommendations for varied public operations such as "traffic control" to save time; "railway franchise appraisements" to save money; "uniform realty assessments" to equalize taxation; "zoning" to serve comfort and convenience.

Isn't the saving of men, women and children from cremation by fires in buildings equally as important as the saving of time, saving money, equalizing taxation or providing comfort and convenience? What could be more important than an effort to save precious human beings from possible incineration?

It is not too much to hope that the loss of life in this recent fire shall not have been in vain and that every city will profit by this experience and promptly employ an expert or a committee of experts, solely responsible to the public authorities, to conduct an investigation of all public and semipublic buildings and similar structures used for public assemblage, all buildings that indicate fire hazards or are otherwise a menace and dangerous for use. Such an expert or committee of experts to submit detailed report of recommendations with a practical building code that will operate promptly to minimize hazards, of which no doubt many will be found. Conditions such as are here discussed obtain in some degree in practically every city.

## TEETH IN LAW SHOULD BITE

Care, too, must be exercised in the type of legislation that is intended to apply to existing buildings. Often the zealotry with which some building ordinances are written defeat their own purpose. They, too, frequently become inhibitory rather than regulatory and either prohibit changes or make exorbitant the cost of improvements in old buildings that would in many instances better admittedly bad conditions. Unintelligent, poorly written, inefficient, ineffectual and impractical building legislation is at times as disastrous as the absence of workable regulatory building ordinances. In fact, desirable improvements are possible in the absence of inhibitory legislation. Adequate and intelligent regulatory building ordinances can be made effective. And a law with teeth needs someone to make it bite.

## THE INSPECTOR

### Ask THE INSPECTOR

*Under this heading are published questions and answers dealing with building problems. Herewith are published a number of queries asked of The Inspector and the answers. Pop the question. Your name will be omitted if you wish.*

### Tell THE INSPECTOR

*This column is dedicated to kicks and comments. Names omitted on request. Right is reserved to publish or reject any complaint received. Give name and address in evidence of good faith. This department is open for constructive criticisms.*

#### INSPECTORS' HALLOWE'EN PARTY

The Plain Folks' Club entertained all employees of the Los Angeles building, electrical and plumbing divisions with a Hallowe'en dinner-dance and all the appropriate stunts of the occasion last month.

The Breakers' Club in Santa Monica was thrown open to the municipal employees, their families and friends. Honored guests of the occasion were: Mayor George E. Cryer, of Los Angeles, members of the Board of Building and Safety Commissioners, J. W. Toms, president; Frank McGinley, vice-president; William H. Antram, Ralph E. Homann and C. E. Noerenberg. City Councilmen L. R. Rice-Wray, chairman, E. Snapper Ingram and William M. Hughes, who comprise the Council Committee of Building and Safety, were other honored guests.

Officials prominently identified with the municipal division of building were: John J. Backus, superintendent of building; R. H. Manahan, city electrician; Clayton V. Welch, chief of the building division; Albert A. Bennett, chief plumbing inspector; Fred Munsie, secretary to the Board of Building and Safety Commissioners; Clyde Makutchan, research engineer, and Otis Phillips, heating and ventilating engineer.

Wouldn't you like to shoot the fellow who says "architect"?

Edward Hyatt, Jr., of Riverside, is now regularly appointed State Engineer of California. He has been acting State Engineer since Paul Bailey resigned that post about two months ago.

#### RADIO ORDERS AND BUNGLE-OWES

"No fooling," says the Federal Radio Commission. "Canned" music released on the ether must be announced by radio stations so listeners will know it's camouflaged and not mistake it for the real thing.

But what about the poor fellow who buys a "bungle-owe" from Foolem, Tellum Nothing and Sell M. Quick? He needs no radio announcer to tell him he owes a lot of money for a bungled job. And he will soon learn that inadequate foundations laid on top soil will cause the house to settle, but that won't settle the bills to repair cracked walls and ceilings.

He may save buying a squealing radio set because the floors will squeak, the doors stick and rasp, the water pipes rumble, the windows rattle, the paint peel and the sturdy-looking outside walls built of holey and wobbly chicken netting painted with plaster will invite the wind to come in and whistle and howl. The poorly supported floor will spring and dance. So what more jazzified enjoyment could one wish?

And when winter comes the trick fireplace will be found to be natty and ornamental but synthetic and unusable in the old-fashioned way. Early cold mornings will prove the inadequate furnace can easily be mistaken for the refrigerator. The rusted-out thin metal gutters and roof drains will hang like icicles; while cheaply built roofs make fair parasols but as umbrellas they are all wet.

And we sign off with "caveat emptor."

#### A LOT OF GOSSIP

Further amendments to the Los Angeles building ordinance relating to the uses of steel joists and the fireproofing of structural steel are probable. These two subjects have been and continue the source of much heated debate.

Whether the plastering ordinance in Los Angeles is due for further tinkering is problematical, but the proponents and opponents seemingly find a lot to talk about.

Too many different interests want to rewrite the San Francisco building code in too many different ways, seemingly, without a set program of how to do it. The result is conflicting interests so confuse the issue it turns out to be all talk and no action.

Rumor that the San Francisco building department will be thoroughly reorganized furnishes a live topic among persons who seem to think they know the inside workings. The chances are, however, that if any changes are made they will occur gradually and in all probability nothing of a radical nature will be done.

One of our wags remarks that building codes and the Volstead Act are both enforced alike—leniently.

Henry E. Shields, for more than 20 years employed in the San Francisco Bureau of Building Inspection, has been appointed acting chief building inspector. Permanent appointment to fill the office vacated by death of John P. Horgan probably will follow the municipal election this month.

#### SEATTLE AMENDS STEEL CODE

G. W. Roberge, city building inspector of Seattle, predicts that safer and more economical building will result from an allowance made in an amended building ordinance regulating stresses and uses of structural steel. It is asserted some of the special requirements for inspection, testing, etc., established in the new amended ordinance effective last month, are rather stringent.

#### TO CONDEMN FIRE-TRAPS

City Attorney J. J. O'Toole of San Francisco has been requested by a committee of the Board of Supervisors to draft an ordinance creating a board of building condemnation with requisite authority to cope with hazardous buildings. This action followed closely a recent lodging house fire in which five lives were lost and which stirred up official activities to eliminate manifestly bad conditions of long standing.

#### SAFETY ORDERS TO BE DISCUSSED

The California State Industrial Commission will hold meetings in San Francisco on November 22 and in Los Angeles on November 29 for the purpose of discussing final adoption of tentative safety orders to regulate the use of paint spraying machines and devices and other related subjects.





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Meyer &amp; Johnson, Architects

John Reid, Jr., Consulting Architect

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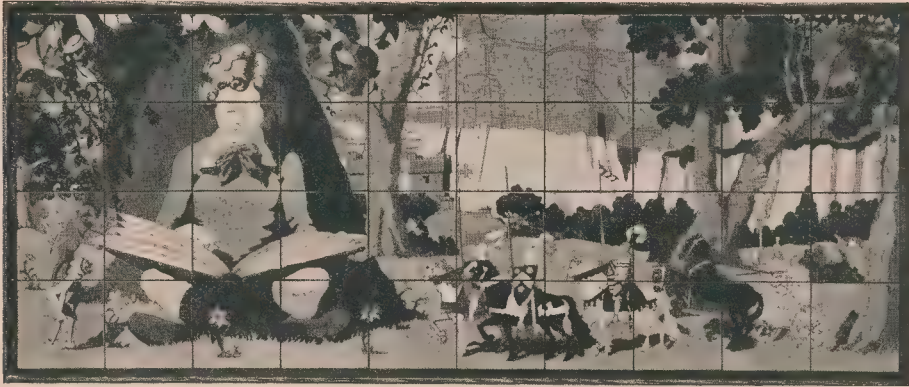
SAN FRANCISCO

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LOS ANGELES

SEATTLE



*Panel in Childrens' Room, Wilmington Public Library*

*Marston, Van Pelt & Maybury, Architects*

## A SUGGESTION FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

ON the shelves of a Public Library, great lovers of history hide and the heroes of chivalry lie unseen. ♣ Think of the possibilities of bringing these characters out of their books to live on library walls. Abelard and Heloise; Tristram and Iseult; Charlemagne. The Cid Campeador carrying his blade against the Moors. How easily they could change a reading room into a world of romance and adventure. ♣ Decorative Tile is an ideal medium for subjects like these. It is practical, it is permanent and it meets every requirement of good art. ♣ The art and research department of Gladding, McBean & Co. will submit original sketches in color to interested Architects.

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*Never before possible—now yours  
at moderate cost*

*Some of  
our standard colors:*

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Early American  
Spanish Brown  
Autumn Brown  
Silver Gray  
Dove Gray  
Royal Blue  
Pastel Green  
Seal Black

*Do not use ordinary stains  
Be sure and send for our book*



*Side and end matched to perfection—Maple  
makes a one-piece floor of lasting beauty*

FOR years, home builders have wanted it—architects and interior decorators have hoped for it—scientists have experimented to make it a reality. Today you can have it for any room in the home, apartment, school, hotel or hospital.

A stained Maple Floor! In any tone you choose. From light, cool green to deep, mellow brown—from delicate sky blue to rich, rare ebony.

By a marvelous new process, color stain is made to penetrate deeply the extremely tight yet uniquely beautiful grain of Northern hard Maple. And with this transparent, even staining, the lovely pattern of the wood grows more visible—develops an even greater charm.

Thus Maple, long known to be smoothest, most comfortable, most enduring of

all fine flooring materials, becomes the most versatile in point of color harmony.

In your plans and recommendations, let Northern hard Maple furnish this delightful new element of color and the homelike atmosphere which only a product of nature can bring. And realize that in using Maple you are assured, at reasonable cost, of flooring satisfaction that will last as long as the building itself. Write for the free illustrated booklet, "The New Color Enchantment in Hard Maple Floors."

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### MFMA

The letters MFMA on Maple, Beech or Birch flooring signify that the flooring is standardized and guaranteed by the Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association, whose members must attain and maintain the highest standards of manufacture, and adhere to manufacturing and grading rules which economically conserve these remarkable woods. This trademark is for your protection. Look for it on the flooring you use.

Floor with Maple

# PLACE OF THE HOTEL IN THE MODERN CITY

[Continued from page 25]

and there are many subsidiary ones, such as the 11,000 taxicabs engaged from the hotel doors. In all, this hotel money is distributed at the rate of over \$250,000 per month.

This example of a great Los Angeles hotel will serve to show that the lesser hotel in the smaller city is proportionately as great a community asset. The city hotels cannot and should not be neglected. It should be the duty of every chamber of commerce to see that one or more first-class hotels be established in their communities, with all the financial and sympathetic backing they are in a position to give, remembering that the average hotel visitor spends at least \$10 per day and is in the city for about three or four days.

There are many architectural and engineering firms now specializing in hotel building. Undoubtedly they are creating magnificent structures, and they are expert in devising their financing, but it is questionable as to whether they ever consider the place which an hotel should have in the city structure, viewing it in a comprehensive way. It should be the mission of city planning to successfully devise the location and environment of all the civic necessities, of which the hotel is one of the most important.

Location is of primary consideration; and this should be, not in the business area, where traffic, noise and smoke are serious drawbacks, but rather on the rim of the shopping district. Assuming that the railroad station is in short, direct access to the main business thoroughfare, there is frequently a midway section which still retains a residential character, and this should be a suitable location, other things being favorable. Not only is the environment more pleasing, but more and cheaper land is frequently available. This allows an ample site, with the possibility of gardens, parking facilities for automobiles, and a plotting of the structure on a spectacular scale. If the hotel can be arranged so that it terminates a street vista, it not only becomes a city landmark but secures a valuable advertising asset. Above all, the hotel on a restricted site on crowded streets cannot adequately function, and soon becomes more or less of a shopping center, with a cluster of stores in its structure. This brings around it a lot of incongruous elements which have no place in legitimate hotel life. It can therefore only succeed by climbing higher, which it will soon proceed to do. The hotel proper is soon a skyscraper, with quiet and order above and a general confusion below. If the city's hotels are centralized under present conditions, many of them frequently lose light and air and are eventually no better off. There is no intrinsic objection to high buildings, providing they have abundant light and air and can function properly to themselves and everyone else without causing traffic congestion. A definite hotel district has many advantages, because it can possibly insure permanent conditions of environment of the same character over a wide area, which each hotel desires to have individually, and which it might not be easy to obtain as an isolated structure. The larger a city becomes, the more its component parts will tend to group, because they do this for mutual advantage as much as anything else. The hotel cannot expect to be dissimilar.

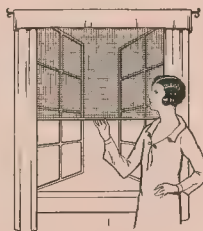
Any sectional districts, whether for trade or residence, need very careful consideration before they are allowed to grow up. They should be definitely tied into all the other supporting elements of the city plan. A hotel needs consideration from the street, traffic, transportation and business area viewpoints, and it should have these whether it is a single structure or a unit in a sectional district. If this is done, it will materially gain on the monetary side by having the best access, best health con-

*Buster Keaton Residence, Beverly Hills, California  
Gene Verge, Los Angeles, Architect*



## A Great Screen Star Chooses In-Vis-O

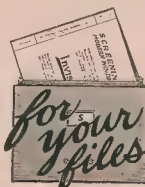
**B**USTER KEATON, one of the great comedians of the screen, took his home-planning seriously. He selected as his home-site a knoll in the most exclusive section of Beverly Hills, and erected thereon a home that is notable even in this city of unusual estates. Naturally his architect specified IN-VIS-O Disappearing Roller Screens for all the windows. Your clients can enjoy the same advantages in beauty, convenience and ultimate economy, no matter how simple, or how elaborate their plans. The coupon will bring you full details.



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In thinking about your slogan for wood, bear in mind that one-fourth of all the land in the United States is covered with forests!

These vast forests are continually growing; unlike other natural resources, wood constantly renews itself through the ages.

Thus you see that timber is a crop—a crop of boundless value to the entire nation. Failure to harvest it when ripe means waste, as in the case of any other crop of the soil.

Leaders of the lumber industry, manufacturers of *American Standard Lumber*, are producing from the mature timber clean, sound lumber. They are grading it according to new and stricter quality rules; thus it goes to the user as a standard product conforming exactly to his needs.

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Famous historic mansions of early Colonial Days, still occupied and still in excellent condition, are of wood construction. So, too, are a majority of modern residences. In fact, three-fourths of all the homes in this country are built of wood.

This marked preference for wood applies to fences, gates, pergolas and garden furniture, as well as to the exterior of the home itself.

As for the interior, you know that the very finest dwellings and apartment houses are extensively trimmed, paneled and beamed with wood.

And for built-in furniture and conveniences, wood is of course beyond comparison. In fact, wood has definitely established built-in beauty as one of the most attractive and desirable features of modern domestic architecture.

The ever-increasing need for compactness and convenience calls not only for built-in bookcases, breakfast nooks and kitchen cabinets, but also for built-in buffets, china closets, wardrobes, linen closets, and even built-in dressing tables. They please owners and help to sell houses.

Note, too, that you can always obtain, at a price within the available funds, a species of wood which will take and flawlessly retain stains, enamels, paints and varnishes in accordance with your most exacting specifications.

And remember particularly that you can effect substantial savings by the judicious use of short length and end-matched lumber.

## Wood ever in demand

There is a wood for every use, and a use for every wood.

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Manufacturers of *American Standard Lumber* in the National Lumber Manufacturers Association believe a better understanding of the industry and a greater appreciation of wood will be of advantage both to users and to the manufacturers. To obtain a slogan for its campaign of information, the Association is conducting a nation-wide contest with liberal prizes. To qualify, send for free booklet, "The Story of Wood". Please use the attached coupon. Remember, the contest closes December 15.

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P. O. Box 811, Washington, D. C.  
*Manufacturers of American Standard Lumber*

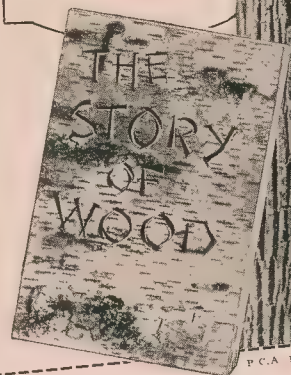
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First Prize . . .	\$5,000
Second Prize . . .	2,000
Third Prize . . .	1,000
Four Prizes (each) .	500
Fifty Prizes (each) .	100

(In case of tie for any of the prizes offered, the full amount of the prize tied for will be paid to each tying contestant.)

Contest closes December 15th



P.C.A. 11-27

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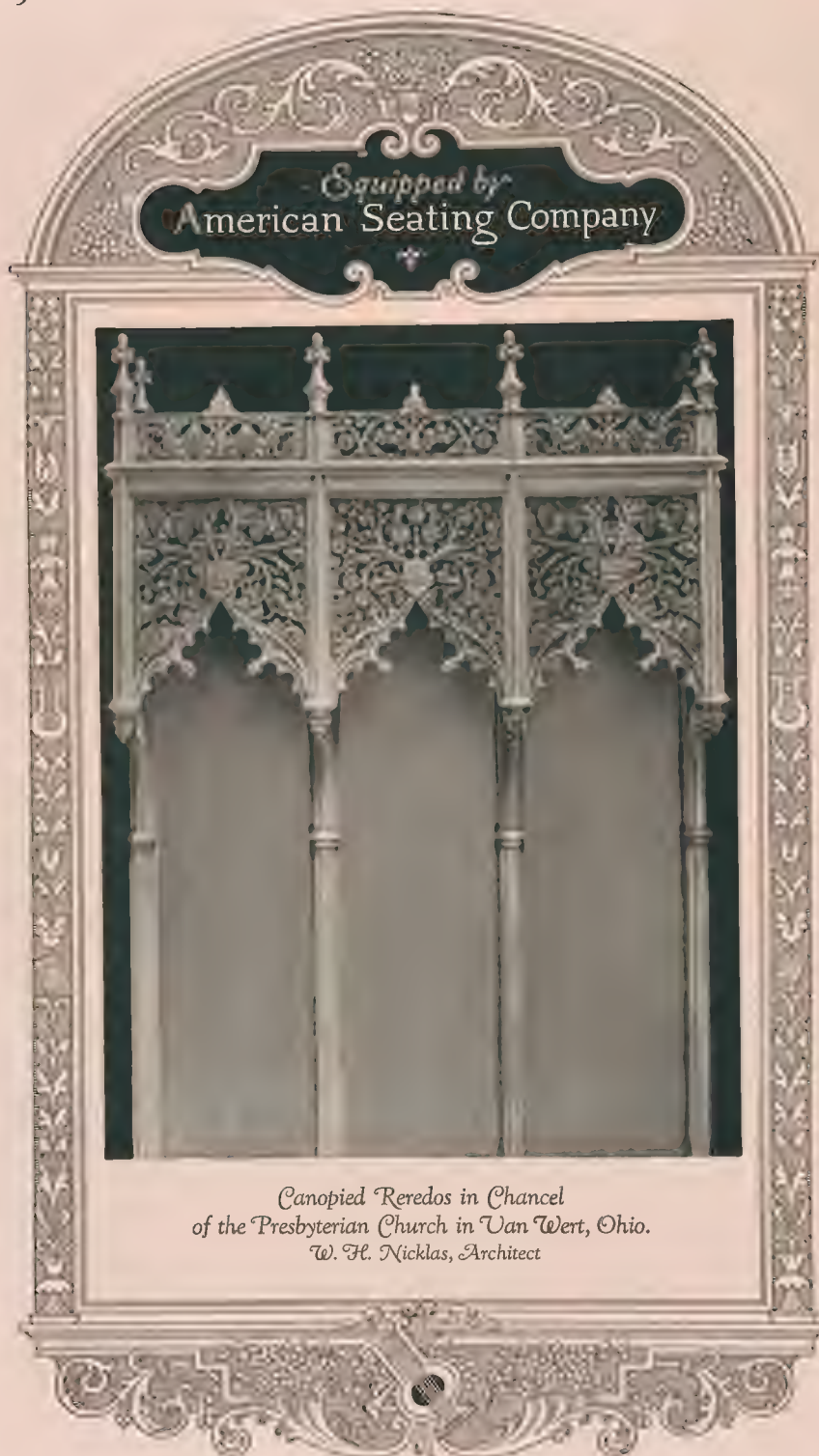
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W. H. Nicklas, Architect*

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ditions, lowest fire dangers and greatest public utility services. No hotel company can afford to disregard such hostages to prosperity.

This article would be incomplete did it not give some consideration as to how the smaller city may attain the desideratum of a first-class hotel. If it is to be secured by the efforts of the local chamber of commerce, they should remember that hotel building is complicated and full of pitfalls, and the advice of expert architects, engineers and financiers should be secured from the start.

The investment required is so large that loans or sale of stock are usually imperative, and someone or somebody must sponsor the project to its completion. They must be financially responsible, with a reputation for the successful management of property, because debts payable out of earnings require something more than mere property as a guarantee.

Loans may be obtained from individuals, banks, insurance companies or mortgage bond houses. Various limitations govern all of these. The cost of floating the loan is considerable. Commission to bond house, interest during construction, legal expenses, bond printing, appraisals, etc., often amount to ten per cent of entire building cost. Preferred stock issues may be advisable, with their many advantages, although they usually provide for about one per cent higher interest rate than first mortgage bonds would pay.

The interest of the corporation may be involved with a variety of property securities, leasehold of property, leasehold to operating company, etc. All this must be considered as integral with the hotel financing from the start.

The hotel building must be designed commensurate with the business upon which it will depend for its income. A good knowledge of local conditions is essential, so that the mistake will not be made of slavishly copying some other hotel operating under other conditions. The hotel must be a good financial risk, and this can only be done by seeing that its design in all particulars is based on the greatest possible income on the investment.

Through the agency of the chamber of commerce many notable hotel projects have achieved success in the past few years. It is a field in which this local body can worthily represent the community and express their desires regarding an important civic institution. After all, there is no substitute for the hotel; and the modern city, if it fails in this sphere, cannot possibly expect to achieve sustained success in many other directions.

[Mr. Hayler, who contributed the above article, is a city planning expert with many years' experience in notable architectural and engineering work. Studying the city from many viewpoints has led him into much detailed research of the elements comprising the city structure. He is an associate member of the American Society of Civil Engineers; member, Institution of Municipal Engineers; member, Royal Sanitary Institute (England) and other professional bodies.—*Editor.*]

\* \* \*

#### BOOK REVIEWS

*The Architect in History*, by Martin S. Briggs, F. R. I. B. A. "An honest attempt to claim for the architect the position in history that is his due, and to expose prevailing fallacies about his work." These crisp, vivid descriptions of architects and their careers, from the golden days of Greece and Rome through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance up to the close of the nineteenth century, are so fascinating that we urgently recommend every architect to secure this book for his library.

"The Architect in History," by Martin S. Briggs. Oxford Univ. Press, American Branch, New York, \$3.75.

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# MONTHLY BULLETIN

[Concluded from page 45]

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The report of the Nominating Committee was read, as follows:

President, Harris Allen; Vice-President, Henry H. Gutterson; Secretary-Treasurer, Albert J. Evers.

Directors: For unexpired term of Henry H. Gutterson, Earle B. Bertz (2 years); John Reid, Jr. (3 years); James S. Dean (3 years).

There being no other nominations, it was moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary cast the ballot.

(Directors R. H. Meyer, J. S. Fairweather and Wm. C. Hays are serving unexpired terms.)

Mr. Allen made a brief address and amid great applause took over the chair gracefully offered by Mr. Reid.

The Chapter passed a vote of thanks to the outgoing officers for their devoted services to the Chapter during the year.

## NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Education Fund was brought up by Mr. Fairweather. Suggested that Education Committee make recommendations to be passed upon by the Executive Committee. No action was taken.

Mr. Norberg showed plumbing symbols as published by the Master Plumbers Association, suggesting that the Chapter take some action. The President suggested that it be referred to the proper committee for report at next meeting.

The Secretary read a communication from Mr. Chester Miller, President of the Alameda County Society of Architects, offering close cooperation of his organization with the Chapter for the next year. The communication was referred to the new Board of Directors.

A communication from Mr. E. T. Thurston regarding building inspection was referred to the Committee on Legislation.

Invitation of the Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference was read and the Secretary was instructed to present the thanks of the Chapter for the courtesy.

Mr. Harris Osborn made a brief address.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT J. EVERS, *Secretary.*

\* \* \*

## NEW BUILDING FOR LOS ANGELES REALTORS

A splendid new building for the Los Angeles Realty Board is assured after a drive for funds which has just resulted in a subscription of \$150,000 by members of the board. This drive, under the direction of Harry H. Culver, vice-president of the board, raised the above amount in less than thirty days. Forty-four members of the board subscribed \$1,000 or more each.

A large lot has been purchased at 1137 South Grand avenue and building operations will begin as soon as plans are completed. It is thought that a building will be decided upon which will be practically a duplicate of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce Building, which is a two-story building, the rear of which is used as a theater and the front half as offices on the first floor and dining-rooms and parlors on the second floor.

\* \* \*

J. B. Keister, vice-president and general manager of the National Lead Company of California, has been elected president of the National Paint, Oil and Varnish Association in convention at Atlantic City recently.

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SO SAYS Mr. George Schmidt, writing of his experience with Hockaday on the corridor walls of the Chicago Trust Company Building.

These walls were only painted once in seven years. His statement reads: "It was necessary to wash them once a week, as they were badly pencil marked. This constant washing did not in any way affect Hockaday's finish or gloss. It looked just as well at the expiration of this time as when it was put on. In other rooms, where other paints were used, we attempted to wash off finger and pencil marks. They came off, all right, but the paint came with them."

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THE ECONOMIC HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS AS  
ILLUSTRATED BY THE OFFICE BUILDING\*

It is time Mussolini came over here and took a hand with our American cities. His masterful appreciation of spaghetti is what marks him as the very man we need. For our American cities are rapidly being resolved, by their crowd-collecting skyscrapers, into such lively bowls of human spaghetti, wriggling through the crowded streets and subways, up and down inside the skyscrapers, in and out and all about, that we need a new kind of a leader to handle the mess. I think Mussolini is the man.

In New York we are already so engulfed by these clumps of giant skyscrapers that it is past all comfort and decency for men and women to try to get about at all. Long ago we lost our light and air, hither and yon, in New York. The skyscraper is an old thief of those commodities. We are a City of Shadows. But now we are also a city of the most closely interwoven crowds of human beings ever known in Christendom.

And yet almost every other American city is copying New York and putting up its own crowd-collecting skyscrapers. Why do they copy New York? When they see the mistake New York has made, why don't they let the populace of that poor giant city squirm in its own sauce, and keep their own buildings down to a sensible height and properly spaced? Or do they want to suffer from the vertical convergence of everybody trying to work in the same place at the same time, which has already abolished New York as a city of safety and sanity, and turned the old town into the bowl of human spaghetti that it now is?

In New York we have 100,000 people going to the theatres at the same time, at the same crossroads, at Forty-second street and Broadway. That is bad enough. But we also have a million people going to work in the same market place of middle Manhattan at the same time in the morning and trying to get away from it at the same time in the evening. They all live somewhere else. They work in the middle of Manhattan because that is where the city's jungle of giant skyscrapers stands. The streets are impassable and the subways are impossible. The demonstration is complete. Our Frankenstein monster, the collective skyscraper, has overcome us.

Surely we cannot centralize indefinitely. Too many high buildings, built too near together, bring a vertical centralization which can never be decently handled by the horizontal streets and subways below.

Nor can any city act indefinitely as financial handmaid to a thicket of skyscrapers. No set of taxpayers has enough money to supply enough streets and subways for these skyscraper thickets and have a penny left for schools, parks, playgrounds and all the other insistent needs of a great modern city. Even New York, the richest city in the country, finds she cannot do this.

There is still time for the other great American cities to enact zoning laws that will decentralize their workaday population by providing a low general level of buildings, pierced here and there by beautiful towers. But will the other cities do this? Or will they still copy New York, for better or for worse?

\*From an address by Major Henry Curtan, counsel, New York City Club, New York, at Fifteenth Annual Meeting, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Washington, D. C.

THE ECONOMIC HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS\*

The opponents of the skyscraper have become so thoroughly imbued with a fanatical zeal that, like most reformers, they are totally blind in one eye. Their distress over the plight of the poor pedestrian and the still more unfortunate motorist at rush hours makes them see the skyscraper problem only in its length and breadth—never in its height; and height, strange to say, is the most interesting thing about the skyscraper. The fact that the



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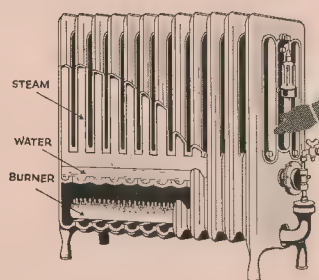
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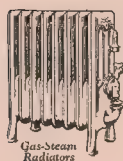
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tall building, eight hours per day, renders an economic service in concentration and efficiency never before possible in the history of man escapes their notice entirely.

I am perfectly willing to admit that the first tall building may have had its origin in some landowner's desire to make a handsome profit out of a small plot in some commercially valuable district. I might even go so far as to say that some of the earliest skyscrapers were little more than stunts—and pretty bad ones, at that.

But as all your economic text-books will tell you, a stunt cannot survive if it is not economically and practically sound. And what business man or architect would dare say nowadays that the skyscraper is any longer an experiment? To be sure, we architects are still experimenting, and you business men are doing everything you can to stop us from putting too many Chinese pagodas on top of your office buildings, but somehow we always manage to come to an amicable conclusion in the end.

In modern business, concentration is all-important because, in the final analysis, all business deals, no matter how vast or how complicated, are based on the simple law of barter and sale. Now barter and sale mean personal contact. "Putting the signature on the dotted line in the presence of witnesses" is no mere phrase. So it will be a long time before television will take the place of that comforting feeling that you have when your victim has screwed the cap on his fountain pen, had a good-luck drink from your private stock "just off the ship," and closed the door of your private office. Such being the case, the skyscraper has not outlived its usefulness yet. Anything that helps to consummate a deal quickly and with the least waste of motion is a boon in this day.

From the twenty-eighth story of the Equitable Building to the tenth floor of the Bankers' Trust is a quick jump because the travel is mostly vertical. Flatten out the financial district to eight or ten stories and those offices might be ten or twelve blocks apart, and the traffic on the surface would be just that much more congested.

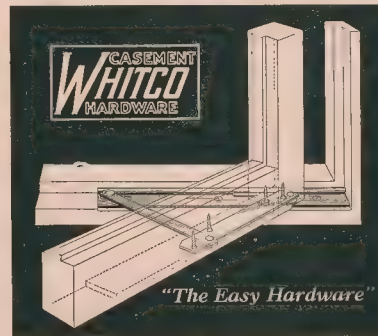
If the die-hard opponents of the skyscraper, such as my friends Mr. Curran and Mr. Mumford, would only talk of regulation and control of tall buildings, I would be with them heart and soul. Perhaps they don't know it, but I always have been. But when they talk about flattening out Manhattan Island to a level ten stories throughout its area, I can do nothing but groan. They seem to have forgotten all about the elevator.

Perhaps they do not realize that there is as much vertical traffic as horizontal in New York's financial district during business hours. Maybe more. In fact it would not be difficult to prove by means of a careful survey that in this section of the city there is less traffic congestion, both pedestrian and vehicular, during the important hours than in sections where the average building height is less than one-third what it is downtown.

But in spite of the inadequacy of its original plan, New York has become the greatest city in the world chiefly because of that group of skyscrapers which have made history. Perhaps if the entire area of Manhattan Island were allowed to grow up in forty-story skyscrapers of the cracker-box type, without regard to transportation, traffic, light or air, it would be disastrous to the business of the city. But it is hardly likely that the men whose ingenuity created the present-day marvel of the skyscraper will kill the goose that laid the golden egg.

In 1916 we began the necessary regulation of building height. And now we are at it again, trying to govern the city's growth so that it will function with a maximum of efficiency, a minimum of traffic trouble, and, last but not least, so as to give it the utmost in beauty and strength.

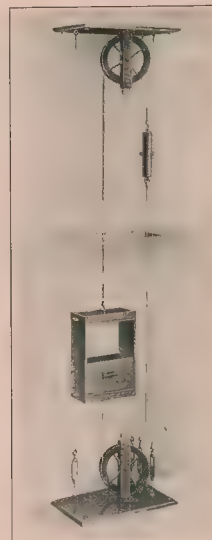
\*From an address by Harvey Wiley Corbett, architect, New York City, at Fifteenth Annual Meeting, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Washington, D. C.



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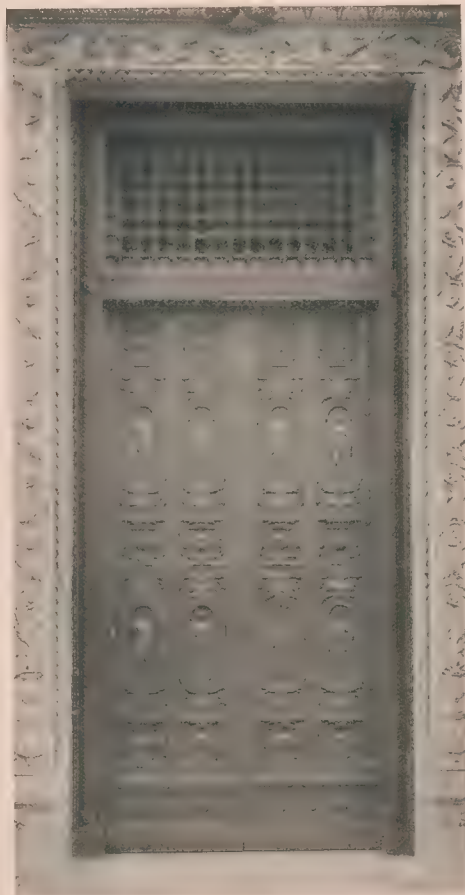
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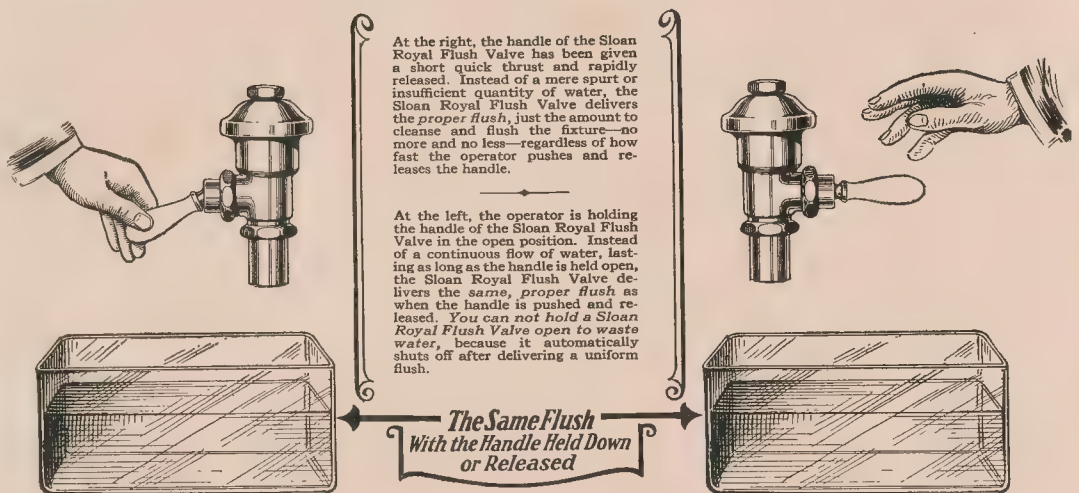
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Residence of Dr. Herbert Moffitt, Woodside, California. George Washington Smith, Architect.

## MARY PICKFORD—STUDENT OF ARCHITECTURE

[BY ZOE A. BATTU]

**I**NTERVIEWING or talking with the average layman on architecture is a lot like trying to pluck invisible fluff out of fog. He is vague, uncertain, cautiously uncomfortable, as a man who realizes he is being forced onto uncertain ground by an unknown power. He may have had built by an architect one or more homes, perhaps a factory or some other business building, but still architecture remains some sort of elusive magic. It is something of which there is a great deal in Europe. California, too, seems to be "getting" architecture. They talk a good deal about it in magazines and advertisements.

With strong memories anent the pursuit of fluff, I went to interview Mary Pickford about California home architecture. How, when, where to begin—I puzzled over the problem while riding out to the studios on the car. Well, we didn't begin. We just started off. We talked about this thing and that—about San Francisco and Los Angeles, the people of the Middle West, England, Europe, about the legitimate stage, plays, about the "movies," of course. Miss Pickford told me of the quite fabulous sums made by the publicity people and other writers in the film in-



Mary Pickford





Residence of Col. Jackling, Woodside  
George Washington Smith, Architect

dustry. I fear I was not properly impressed or tempted with this information. Architecture spoils you; gives you "queer" notions. I began to have a hunch that I was being interviewed quite as much as the person whom I had come to interview. In this case, it was not an unpleasant turn of the situation.

Finally, we did get around to architecture. Miss Pickford has ideas on the subject—something besides the usual vague or cut-and-dried ones of the layman. She discussed the new home, or, rather, the creation of an estate that she and her husband are undertaking near San Diego. They have a tract of some 2500 acres to be developed in the lordly and gracious manner of the old Spanish rancho. The house, of which George Washington Smith is the architect, is to be Spanish, authentically so.

George Washington Smith has been named as architect because in Miss Pickford's opinion his work ideally re-creates all those factors upon which the Spanish architectural tradition of California is founded. It savors of a truism to go over the story of the Padres and Dons in early California history—to tell again how they came to a primitive frontier, whose climate and topog-

raphy seemed fashioned by a higher wisdom to provide a soil where ancient, time-hallowed social, cultural, artistic and architectural traditions flourished like the proverbial green bay tree. This tale is struck so deeply into the soil and rocks of the land by the labors of Padres and Dons that even yet echoes of their footfalls pervade the still hills and valleys.

The marvel is that we were so long in awakening to the beauty of the heritage; so blind in perceiving its significance; so slow in taking it to ourselves as to a familiar garment, which it is; so ingenious in corrupting and "adapting" it. But Mr. Smith suffered no blindness; traveled no indirect paths to the sources of California's ar-



Residence of Craig Herberton, Montecito  
George Washington Smith, Architect



Court, Residence of Col. Jackling  
George Washington Smith, Architect

chitectural traditions. His homes, whether large or small, are remarkable in their directness; in the simplicity with which they speak the truths of this old architecture as something eminently suitable to the creation of a tradition of beauty, utility and artistry for a growing land and people.

A Southern California ranch house provides this artist with an ideal medium for the embodiment of the very spirit of the State's early history and life. For it was in the South that the ranch house achieved its grandest manner, its most lavish, lordly and patriarchal airs. Here the Grandee and the cattle baron lived amidst their broad acres and knew nothing but large scorn for the small economics, necessary in social orders, dictated by the ways of cities, competi-

[Continued on page 55]



RESIDENCES IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. DESIGNED BY HAROLD J. BISSNER

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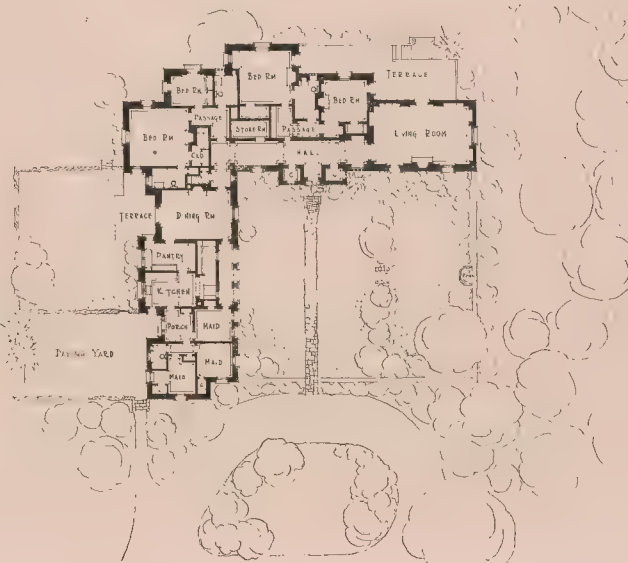
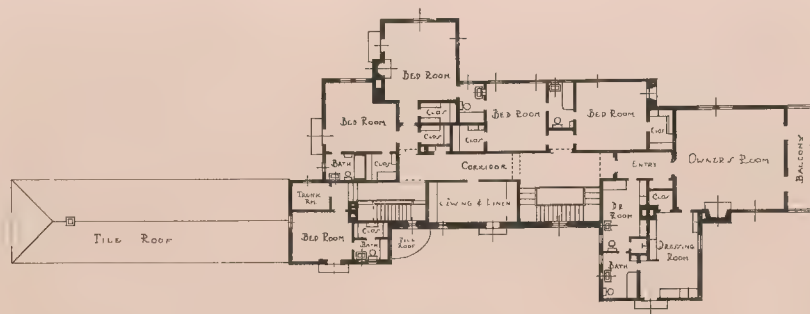
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ABOVE—FLOOR PLANS; RESIDENCE HAROLD S. CHASE, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA  
 BELOW—FLOOR PLAN; RESIDENCE MRS. CURTIS CATE, CARPINTERIA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA  
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RESIDENCE FOR MR. HAROLD S. CHASE, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA. REGINALD D. JOHNSON, ARCHITECT  
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LIVING ROOM, MAIN ENTRANCE, RESIDENCE OF MR. HAROLD S. CHASE, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA. REGINALD D. JOHNSON, ARCHITECT  
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ABOVE—MAIN HALL; BELOW—LOGGIA; RESIDENCE OF MR. HAROLD S. CHASE, SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.  
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RESIDENCE FOR MRS. CURTIS CATE, CARPINTERIA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA. REGINALD D. JOHNSON, ARCHITECT  
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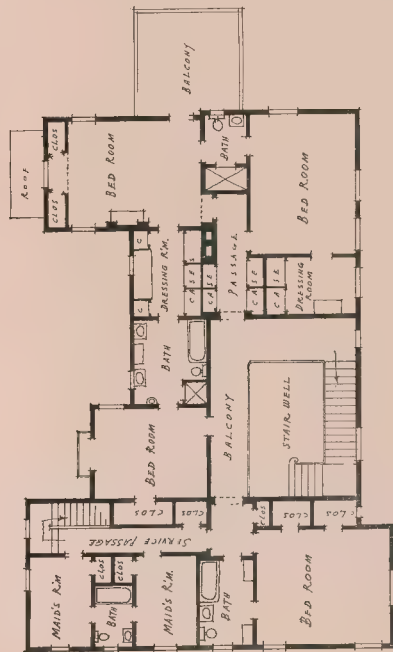
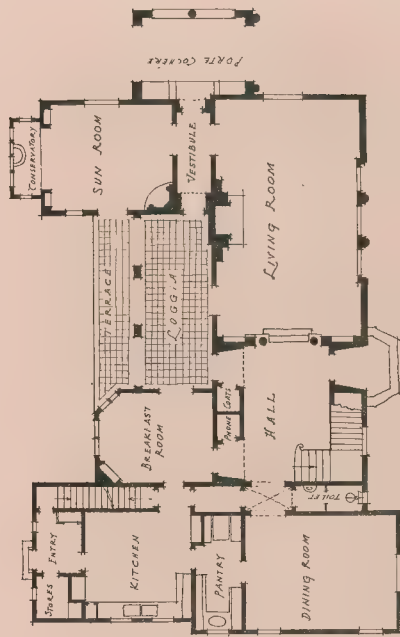
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LIVING ROOM, RESIDENCE FOR MRS. CURTIS CATE, CARPINTERIA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA  
REGINALD D. JOHNSON, ARCHITECT

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ABOVE—FLOOR PLANS, RESIDENCE EARL BARKER; BELOW—FLOOR PLANS, RESIDENCE E. F. CONSIGNY; BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
GABLE AND WYANT, ARCHITECTS





RESIDENCE, MR. E. F. CONSIGNY, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
GABLE AND WYANT, ARCHITECTS

*Photos by Mott Studios*



RESIDENCE, MR. EARL BARKER, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
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*Photos by Mott Studios*





GARDEN FRONT, RESIDENCE MR. EARL BARKER, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
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THE CHARLTON E. AMES RESIDENCE, BEVERLY HILLS  
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RESIDENCE, MR. CHARLTON E. AMES, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. GABLE AND WYANT, ARCHITECTS

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RESIDENCE, MR. C. R. L. CRENSHAW, SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA. GABLE AND WYANT, ARCHITECTS  
(FOR PLANS SEE PAGE 39)



*6 Studios*

RESIDENCE, MR. C. R. L. CRENSHAW, SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA. GABLE AND WYANT, ARCHITECTS





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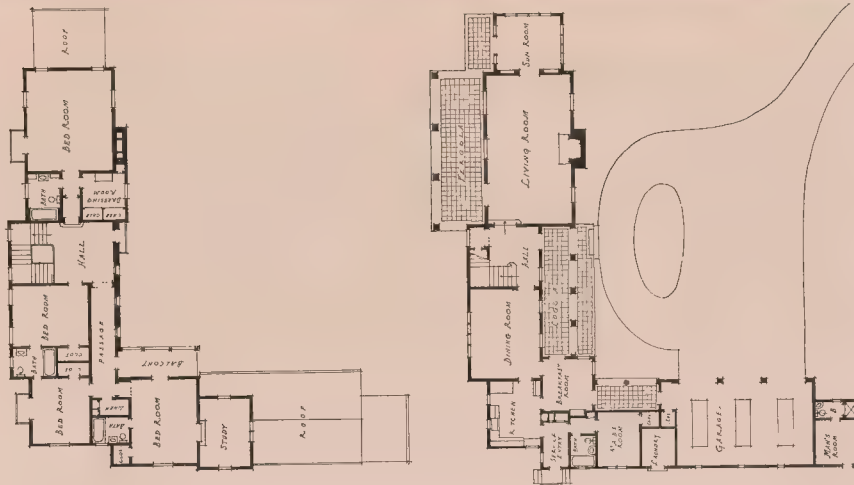


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MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS  
ATLEE B. AYRES AND ROBERT M. AYRES, ARCHITECTS



ABOVE—SKETCH FOR RESIDENCE, MRS. LITA GREY CHAPLIN, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA  
ROY SELDON PRICE, ARCHITECT

BELOW—FLOOR PLANS, RESIDENCE, MR. C. R. L. CRENSHAW, SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA  
GABLE AND WYANT, ARCHITECTS





FROM THE FORVE STUDIOS, LOS ANGELES

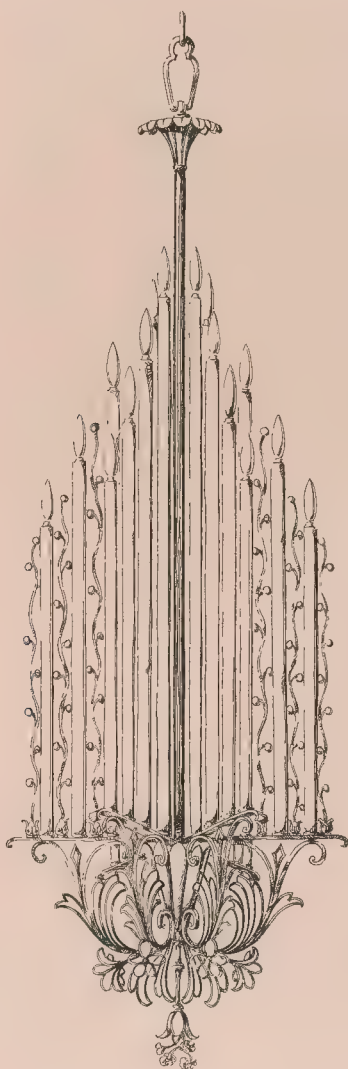
# A STILL HUNT FOR THE "NEW" IN LIGHTING FIXTURES

[ BY ZOE A. BATTU ]

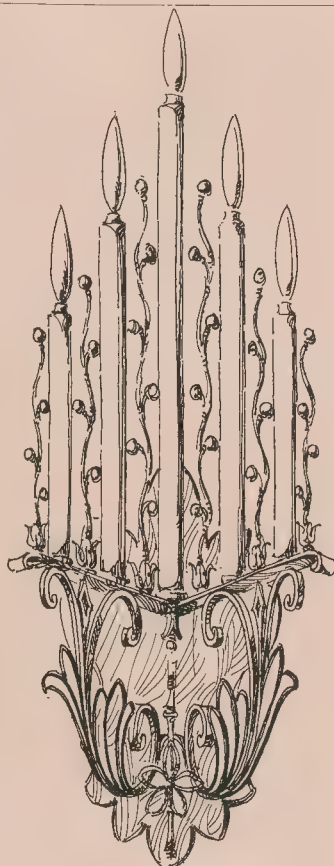


IGHTING FIXTURES, designs, sketches, photographs—within the past month I venture to say that I have looked at some thousands of them. Los Angeles, whither the search led me, is amazingly prolific in the matter of lighting fixtures. The fruits of her labors are amazingly good, amazingly bad and in all degrees of indifference. San Francisco designers are hardly less prolific and the same may be observed as to the quality of their output.

In the course of my search one gentleman observed that about lighting fixtures, their use and design, there is little new that can be said. The matter of harmonizing them with the building and room of which they are a part; of



Boyd Studios, San Francisco



Boyd Studios, San Francisco

employing direct or indirect principles; of taking care that in our zeal for the unusual and original we do not overlook the first purpose of lighting fixtures, namely, to be mediums and not obstructions to illumination; is merely the trite and the apparent.

The gentleman is quite right. But even so, I have been able to discover some phases of lighting fixture design, employing both direct and indirect methods, as evolved in leading Western studios, which I believe are worthy of brief mention.

One of the things most apparent is a striving toward the modernistic. This attempt cannot be called modernistic in the sense that it deals with the bizarre, or the controversial in art and design, which disregards reasonable relation to general environment, but modernistic in the sense that the compositions seek to convey something of the quality—the symbolism of light, itself. Interior and exterior fixtures tend to have the main elements of their design move upward. This is true of both direct and indirect type of fixtures. It results in a delicacy, strength and grace of line, and in the direct principle fixtures the light issues easily and logically from them, rather than spurting out, or being merely an attached blob of illumination.

This tendency is ideally exemplified in the center and





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Outside Lantern by Otar the Lampmaker, Santa Cruz, Calif.



Wall Bracket by Otar the Lampmaker, Santa Cruz, Calif.

wall fixture from the Boyd Studios, San Francisco, which is here shown. In this case the vertical principle, now being so widely employed in American architecture, is applied to a lighting fixture with a result striking in its suggestiveness and beauty.

The greater bulk of our fixtures is executed in metal—copper, iron or brass. This is but one phase of the increasing use of these metals in Western architecture and the corresponding renaissance of an old European art. The lighting-fixture studios are making a distinct contribution to this rebirth of an ancient craft. Their workmanship, as a whole, shows growing understanding of the possibilities and expressiveness that lie dormant in cold, rigid metal.

In homes and buildings constructed as recently as five or ten years ago, the lighting fixtures show but faint traces of tendencies now fairly apparent. Horizontal motives, which spread the fixtures outward, were more

generally employed. Skill in metal working had not achieved anything of its present standards of grace and strength, and the fixtures appeared ungainly and awkwardly rigid. There was something mechanical about their execution, whereas the vitalizing, human touch of intelligent handwork is now plainly visible.

Illuminating engineers of a prophetic turn of mind tell us that it will only be a matter of time when lighting will come from completely concealed sources. These gentlemen look upon any and all lighting fixtures as inefficient, wasteful makeshifts, while for the art of their design they have only vast scorn. It is not unreasonable to suppose that such prophecies will come true and the new order will be one of superior, perfectly mechanized, unimaginative economy and efficiency. It will, of course, be the death of an art of rich interest and evolving beauty, and surely this is an idea terrible to contemplate. Let us add the hope that this day will not soon come.





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# EDITORIAL

## *In the Right Direction*

ONE of the leading San Francisco newspapers has undertaken to sponsor a series of "Model Homes," and we understand similar action has been taken in Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle.

The building of a "Model Home," so called, is no novelty. In fact, the public has become rather skeptical, even somewhat suspicious, when a "Model Home" is advertised, with great fanfare of trumpets and protestations of perfections. However, it is new for a great paper to adopt one of these infant prodigies and officially endorse it as legitimate.

And this is the significant fact in this new series of undertakings; that no step is taken without professional advice and service.

Besides engaging a responsible certificated architect to perform full architectural service, a consulting architect is secured for independent comment, criticism, suggestion, approval, of the plans, in regard to design, construction, material.

Such public and complete recognition of the value of real architectural service, indeed, of its actual necessity for the success of such an undertaking, has never before been expressed. Its educative importance is tremendous, and cannot but result in beneficial effects to the profession, not merely from increased practice, but in a better relationship with laymen as clients, present and potential.

\* \* \*

## *Are Specifications Followed?*

MUCH has been said about the practice of specifying "or equal" after mention of some specific material, which usually results—so it is claimed—in the substitution of another material, cheaper if not inferior. But one does not hear so much about the unauthorized use of other materials, or treatments, for what is definitely specified.

It is amazing how frequently this condition exists; and the architect's responsibility cannot be denied. Doubtless there are often cases of emergency when the specified article is not available within a reasonable limit of time. Doubtless, also, the difference in quality or cost is often negligible. But legally and morally the architect is bound to see that specifications are followed, that buildings are executed in complete accordance with the terms of the contract; and architectural supervision, however distinguished from "superintendence," certainly should

be close enough to prevent any substitution of materials.

It can readily be seen that the reactions of a client, on discovering such condition, are liable to reflect injury upon the entire profession. Therefore it is the duty of the individual architect to prevent substitutions except when unavoidable, and decide such cases with the full cognizance of the owner, both for his own sake and for the protection of his fellow practitioners.

\* \* \*

## *New Building Code*

SAN FRANCISCO in particular, and other California cities, too, can profit by the example set in Los Angeles for a new modern building code, which is outlined in an article elsewhere in this issue. So long as the movement in Los Angeles is under auspices of an impartial, official, governmental board, an auspicious beginning has been made. Other cities should follow either by launching local building code movements under government control, or by joining with Los Angeles to get the best that is developed there, for use in local codes.

\* \* \*

## LOS ANGELES ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

The monthly dinner of the Los Angeles Architectural Club was held in the beautiful assembly rooms of the Artland Club. All of the nominated officers of the Club were anxious for the annual election, that they might take up their duties for the coming season. In spite of the fact that there are many capable men on the list of prospective officers, it was unanimously decided that the remaining work of the year be completed by the present executive personnel of the organization. As there are many important tasks to be accomplished before the officers of the past year retire, it was decided to honor the present officers with an additional month's duty. Though the present paid-up membership of the Club is larger than ever, it contains the representatives of the most active and influential architectural groups of the community. With such architects assembled in one group, it is to be expected that another year of interesting activities will place the standards as well as the status of the profession well in advance.

In a short time the greatest event of Western architectural history is to be displayed at the annual Beaux Arts Ball. The managing and consulting committees of local architects are drafting the plans for one of the greatest spectacular events that is possible for an architect to visualize. The great ball of the season is to become an annual event that is not to be surpassed either for the spectacular display of scenes or its vivid drama of life. The revelry and gayety of the occasion are to rival the ancient fabled gayety of Cleopatra's court.

The success of the present year's ball is guaranteed by a group of the most active men of the city, who are giving the program their financial backing.





Dr. Herbert Moffitt Residence, Woodside, Calif.

J. C. Clemence, *Builder*.George Washington Smith, *Architect*

### *Ramona Tile & Mediterranean Architecture*

THE HOME shown above is a typical example of the beautiful work of Mr. George Washington Smith. Its roof is covered with RAMONA ROOF TILE, graded in color from light at the eaves to dark at the ridge. The interesting construction at the gable rakes is particularly effective, the plaster of the wall being carried half over the rake roll and the joint lines accentuated.

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# INSTITUTE AND CLUB MEETINGS

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, A. I. A.

There will be no meeting during the month of December because of the holidays. The next regular meeting of the Northern California Chapter will take place January 31, at which meeting the subject of city inspection will be discussed. Interested persons outside the Chapter will be invited to attend.

\* \* \*

## ALAMEDA COUNTY SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

At a meeting held November 7th, the Alameda County Society of Architects officially endorsed the policies of the East Bay Industrial Association, which had been presented to it during October. The industrial association, which is an organization of employers and industrial heads, has based its labor policies upon the American Plan and is seeking endorsement and support for its stand from all industrial and professional organizations the nature of whose work and activities entail the employing or contacting with labor.

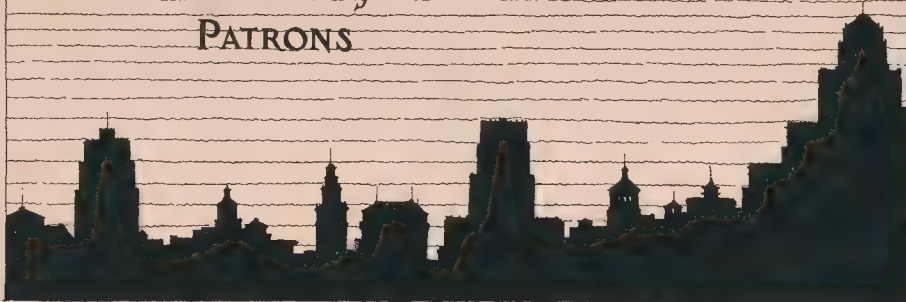
The architects at this time also gave their endorsement to the program of the Pasadena Community Arts Association for embodying, in the public school curriculum, courses in the appreciation of architecture, and have taken

preliminary steps to put the plan into actual operation in Alameda County public schools.

The Pasadena Art Association has already succeeded in having courses on architecture for the layman made a regular part of the high school art department programs and plans to lend its support to making the movement State-wide. The work is modeled somewhat after the courses which deal with literature and general art appreciation and is designed to give the student some basis of intelligent judgment and discrimination in things architectural and a realization of the esthetic values of good architecture to the practical problems of livable homes and sound city planning. In Santa Barbara the classes have been directed by leading architects, who recognize in it an opportunity of first import to educate the future citizenry along lines where education and direction is sadly needed.

November 21st the society's meeting was addressed by Andrew P. Hill, a State officer who functions in an advisory capacity in matters relating to school architecture and school construction. Hill outlined the nature of his duties in relation to the school architect and discussed the nature and solution of some of the timely problems in school planning and building.

## THE SEASONS GREETINGS TO ARCHITECTS FRIENDS & PATRONS



## SAN FRANCISCO ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

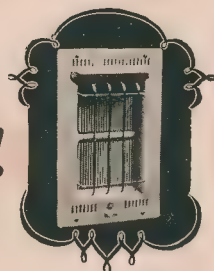




The Fred Niblo residence  
Beverly Hills, California,  
Wallace Neff, architect;  
J. W. Bean, contractor.  
This charming home is  
equipped with eight  
Majestic Electric Heaters

## Electric Heat Again!

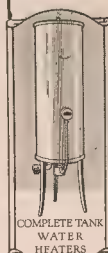
**F**ew phases of electrical development have shown as rapid strides toward perfection as Electric Heat. Its superior cleanliness, safety and economy are now generally recognized. This is definitely proven in the ever-growing number of Majestic installations.



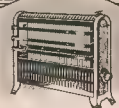
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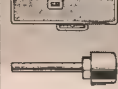
BATHROOM  
HEATERS



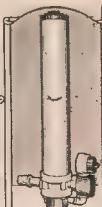
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POOL, ESTATE OF HAROLD VANDERBILT, PALM BEACH, FLORIDA  
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The Sheridan-Brompton Apartment Building, Chicago, Illinois. Rissman & Hirschfeld, Architects

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## AN IDEAL BACKGROUND

[[ BY JULIA WOLFE ]]



TOO MANY of the beautiful apartments these days are decorated in gray, for it is an excellent background for pictures and ornaments. Of course gray and all the tones of gray are not decorative in themselves, but some contrasting color, which is to form the real color note in a room, but which is too strong to use in any but small quantities, can safely be used with it. It is therefore neutral.

Neutral tints and grays can not be obtained satisfactorily by plain painting in thick color. They must be done by combinations of color either stippled or glazed, and not by some mixture, which is the usual method. A neutral tint or gray tending in the blue direction should be over a bright light-blue foundation, and one in a browner tone over scarlet. The blue foundation may be stippled with white and grays to bring out the desired tint, and the scarlet with browns and whites. Several coats of stippling will be needed, but it is worth while, as one will get quite a different and a far more interesting result.

One can say that the pure grays range from white through all tones to black; the other neutral tints soon cease to be neutral and become brown or blue or green according to their alliance with these colors.

A north room should never be "done" in gray nor should a badly lighted room, as it will only look dirty; and when working in grays one must always bear in mind that an unclean effect is to be avoided at all costs.

The surface of light gray walls is important. It should be flat, as glossy gray is too drab in effect. A ceiling should never be gray. A neutral tint tending towards brown may, however, be glossy in surface; also many walls that are blue but almost gray.

Given a gray background, certain colors at once suggest themselves to work with. Pink—a bluish pink, not an orange pink—is excellent, and very effective. Pale blue may be charming, but it should be a pinkish blue and not a green one if the gray is light. Bright green also is delightful, but brown and yellow are to be avoided as being antipathetic and not sufficient in themselves to quell the gray. Pure vermilion and pure emerald green are beautiful with light gray, but with dark gray they fail, and one must turn to crimson and to richer greens. However, the same bright blues will go with all shades of gray.

White is good with all grays up to a point, but where they are dark the white should be slightly

tinted and really be a pale gray. Black is poor with light gray, but good with dark gray, provided it is a blue black and not a brown black, which must only come near the browner tones of neutral tints.

One of the best backgrounds for drawings or for etchings may be had by painting a wall white and then glazing lampblack and gray mixed and stippled. The result should be dark and varnished, and with it may be bright colored or white paint with a flat surface, the frames of the pictures being the same color as the doors, etc.

Gray curtains, cushions, etc., need care. Gray carpets need no care, and can be, and are, put in everywhere where nothing else is called for.

If gray curtains there be they must be of silk or other expensive material. Cotton should be avoided. Gray curtains are better self-colored, and should not have a colored design on them. Their beauty should be in their oyster-like gloss. Also gray cushions should be self-colored. Gray should never be floridly decorated, and therefore all "extras" should not be done in gray.

Fringes and braids of gray can be very good, and they may be made of very fine silk or artificial silk to give a gloss that will make them represent silver.

Unpainted woodwork can be gray and be very lovely. The wood may be bleached by a polisher and then left. It is better unwaxed, but if it be waxed, then white wax should be used, as one wishes to keep it as silvery as possible.

Gray floors are always effective. This can be done and sustained with oxalic acid, but such bleaching is useless for furniture that is used much, as grease and oils destroy the bleach.

Outside, gray paint is of little value; white is usually far more serviceable. Gray blinds on a white house with a gray tiled roof are pleasing, and a very highly varnished front door is smart in a white archway and is charming.

Silver light fixtures and candle holders also blend beautifully with gray. Gray paper for a bathroom is delightful.

\* \* \*

### NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS AND PLANNING COMMISSION

The bill which recently passed Congress creating the National Capital Park and Planning Commission was vigorously endorsed by the various chapters of the American Institute of Architects, and the Western chapters were able to rally their representatives in Washington to its support. Besides appropriate Government officials, it is to include four "eminent citizens, well qualified and experienced in city planning." This measure is a very wise one; it will protect the future of our National Capital and tend to make it an adequate expression of the country's greatness.





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# EDITORIAL

## *The American Plan*

AFTER several years of industrial peace in San Francisco, which brought the complement of peace—prosperity—another struggle has started between the members of some of the Building Trades unions and that large element among the contractors of San Francisco who have adopted the American Plan.

Architects should not, and in reality they cannot, remain neutral on such a subject. It affects them too vitally as individuals, whose livelihood depends upon a healthy condition in the building industry; it concerns them too deeply in a broader way, as members of a profession committed to a code of ethics based upon justice, fair play, and the sanctity of contracts; and as citizens who have received unconditional opportunities for training and practise, they are bound to uphold the inalienable right of every American to obtain a living by his own efforts, under no conditions as to membership in any private organization.

Every architect knows how he stands on these points. There is no real question in his mind. Here is no dispute about wages or hours—all architects object to craftsmen being underpaid or overworked, for buildings cannot be well constructed under such conditions; there must be loyal cooperation, with a square deal for all concerned, to achieve our ideal. But to deny a man the right to work is not a square deal.

The acts of violence which have been accessory to this strike, deplorable as they are, are not needed to show architects their duty. Public opinion always forces government, sooner or later, to control such situations. Architects, with their fuller knowledge of facts, should anticipate public opinion, not only in denouncing violence, but in condemning the dog-in-the-manger, un-American policy which refuses to let men work because they do not belong to some organization. They should enforce their principles in their private practise so far as is in their control, and should endorse and support the bodies who are resisting this unfair demand.

It must be clear that definite settlement of this matter is essential, not only for the future industrial life of San Francisco, but as an example for the rest of the country.

## *A. I. A. 59th Annual Convention*

WASHINGTON, on the 5th of May, was just beginning to have the promise of its fervent summer, but the delegates to the Convention found that the time

chosen gave temperature which was quite comfortable, while nature was busy covering trees and shrubbery with their full dress of Summer verdure.

The meetings of the Convention were held in the building of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, a fine new edifice on Lafayette Square. The opening session, on Wednesday, May 5, showed a large attendance, not only of delegates but of visitors; it was devoted to the not too-exciting occupation of hearing reports by the President, Treasurer and Board of Directors. After the business session the whole meeting adjourned to the White House, to be present at what was scheduled as a reception by President Coolidge. Not wishing to appear unappreciative, perhaps there was more to it than this, but the reception consisted principally of a gathering on the White House lawn. After some waiting, President Coolidge appeared, presented himself before the waiting camera, the picture was snapped and the reception seemed to be over.

In the afternoon the reports of the Press of the A. I. A. and the revision of the Competition Code were the items of chief interest. The whole matter of the Press of the A. I. A., the Structural Service Bureau and the Small House Service Bureau entered into the discussion, with the result that it was finally decided to merge the Journal and the Structural Service Bureau.

In the evening the report of the Committee on Small Houses was received, and after considerable debate, which bid fair to become warm at times, it was decided that the Institute should continue to sponsor the Small House Service Bureau.

The history of the development of the Octagon property was well illustrated in lantern slides and a talk by President Waid. The need for housing the libraries of Don Barber and two others, which have been bequeathed to the Institute, was brought forward forcefully, and the sentiment that the Institute should have its meetings in its own building seemed to be very strong. The committee in charge was finally authorized to proceed with plans and developments of the Octagon property, even if the old stables in the rear could not be preserved.

On the morning of Thursday, May 6, there was scheduled one of the finest features of the whole Convention, which was a discussion of American architecture and modern art by Geo. H. Edgell, a brilliant and keen dissertation.

The luncheon meetings at the Hotel Washington were all marked by notable addresses. On Thursday, John Nolen, president of National Conference on City Planning, showed slides and gave a talk on recent town planning in Florida. The care and foresight of the subdividers who are planning for the future in Florida might well be followed on the Pacific Coast.

On the afternoon of May 6, further reports of committees and a visit to the Freer Gallery occupied the time. The Freer Gallery proved a fresh delight, even to those who had seen it before. Its lovely proportions, well-balanced exhibits of a large collection of Whistler's works and its beautiful Oriental screens, sculpture and paintings are satisfying to the most critical eye. The building itself is a masterpiece, in which every architect must delight.

On Friday the closing of the polls and the announcement of the officers elected showed that Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., of Philadelphia, had been elected president; Mr. William Emerson of Boston, first vice-president; Mr. C. Herrick Hammond of Chicago, second vice-president;

[Concluded on page 59]





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# SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS MONTHLY BULLETIN

## OFFICERS

JOHN REID, JR., President  
HARRIS ALLEN, Vice-President  
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## DIRECTORS

J. S. FAIRWEATHER, three years  
W. C. HAYS, three years  
EARLE B. BERTZ, two years  
WILL G. CORLETT, two years  
GEORGE W. KELHAM, one year  
ARTHUR BROWN, one year

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the San Francisco Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, will be held on Tuesday September 21, 1926, at 6:30 p. m., at the rooms of the San Francisco Architectural Club, 523 Pine St. Dinner will be served at 75 cents per plate.

## MAY MEETING

The regular meeting of The American Institute of Architects, San Francisco Chapter, was held on Tuesday, May 18, 1926, in the rooms of the San Francisco Architectural Club, 523 Pine St. President John Reid, Jr., called the meeting to order at 7:48 p. m., the following members being present: President Reid, Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Bruce, Coxhead, Gutterson, Hays, Maury, Mitchell, Mooser and Schroepfer. In the absence of Mr. Evers, Mr. Ashley acted as Secretary.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as published.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Coxhead, chairman of the Committee on Washington City Plan, reported on his cooperation with Mr. Peasley in Washington to obtain the desired legislation in regard to the creation of the National Capitol Park and Planning Commission.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

Letters of appreciation from Mrs. Sylvain Schnaittacher and Mrs. Albin R. Johnson were read.

A communication from Mr. J. B. Hosford, Sierra Madre, Calif., requesting some action by the Chapter in establishing relations with the Central Society of Architects of Buenos Ayres, was read and referred to the Board of Directors.

The communication from Mr. Chas. H. Green of New York dated March 31, 1926, regarding the possibility of holding an architectural exposition in San Francisco, was referred to the Committee on Exhibitions for report and recommendation.

Extracts from a letter from Mr. Evers, giving his impressions of the 1926 Convention of the Institute, were read.

A letter from the Department of Commerce, transmitting a copy of a recently issued publication on "Recommended Practice for Arrangement of Building Codes," was read and referred to the Committee on Building Laws and Legislation.

A communication from the New Jersey Chapter, A. I. A., dated March 22, regarding their attitude toward the Small House Service Bureau, was read and ordered filed.

A communication from the Builders Exchange of San Francisco, dated May 12, drawing the members' attention to their annual banquet at the Fairmont Hotel Thursday, May 27, was read.

A communication from the Industrial Accident Commission, Department of Safety, State of California, giving notice of hearing with reference to revision of maximum speed of elevators, was read and referred to the Committee on Building Laws and Legislation.

Communications from Mr. Whitaker of the Journal of the American Institute of Architects, and from Mr. Kemper, Executive Secretary, regarding the death of Mr. Rudolph Herold, were read and filed. Mr. Evers was appointed to act as a committee of one to draw up resolutions on the death of Mr. Herold.

President Reid appointed a committee on resolutions on the death of the late Matthew O'Brien, composed of Mr. Mooser, chairman, and Mr. Schroepfer.

A letter from Mr. Fred Dohrmann of the Regional Plan Association to Mr. Reid, offering the cooperation of that organization in making a study of the problems of limitation of heights of buildings in connection with the topography of San Francisco, was read and referred to the Committee on City Planning.

A communication dated May 12, 1926, from the Central Market Street Association, regarding the proposal to limit heights of buildings on Market Street near the Civic Center, was read and referred to the Committee on City Planning.

## REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mr. Harris Allen presented and read resolutions on the death of Mr. Willson J. Wythe, which were ordered spread on the minutes and a copy to be sent to the widow.

### MR. WILLSON J. WYTHE—1871-1926

The architectural profession has suffered a distinct loss in the death of Willson J. Wythe, Oakland architect, in March, 1926. His father, Dr. W. T. Wythe, and his grandfather, Dr. J. H. Wythe, practiced in Oakland where Willson Wythe, though born at Sacramento, spent his lifetime. He received a degree in civil engineering at the University of California and was a draftsman in Clinton Day's office, doing much of the work on the Stanford Memorial Chapel. He took several trips abroad, specially studying church architecture. He planned about sixty churches in California, being noted for combining a worshipful spirit with the practical features needed for auxiliary. For nearly twenty years he was a member of the University of California Faculty, teaching mechanical drawing and applied mathematics. In 1910 he married Elenore Tillman of Oakland, and leaves two children. He was a member of the Office Board and was Treasurer of Benevolences of the First Methodist Church of Oakland. He was a charter member of the Orpheus Club, an honorary charter member of Acacia Fraternity, U. C., member of Live Oak Lodge, F. & A. M., and the Lodge of Perfection, Scottish Rite. For many years he was a member of The American Institute of Architects. From 1906 to 1910 he was partner of Charles W. McCall. From 1923 to his death he was in partnership with Roger W. Blaine and David Olsen. The members of the San Francisco

[Concluded on page 63]





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# SAN FRANCISCO ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

MEMBER ARCHITECTURAL CLUBS' TRANSFER SYSTEM WESTERN STATES HEADQUARTERS: SOCIETY BEAUX ARTS ARCHITECTS

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*Directors:* LAWRENCE STIERS HARRY LANGLEY ARTHUR JANSSEN



THE San Francisco Architectural Club is now nearing the end of the season. With the good work of this season we have hopes of beginning the Fall Term with a lot of pep and vigor. A hearty welcome will be extended to anyone desiring to enter the Atelier for the Beaux Art Season. Our Class A group is gradually growing. K. E. Ponsford was awarded a mention on his Class A Project, which is published in this issue.

The character of the Club is attested to this year by the fact that two of its members have won distinction. R. J. Blas, our Sous Massier, just won a special student scholarship to Harvard, and will leave this Fall. Orin Bullock,



Class A Project by K. E. Ponsford

who received last year's scholarship given by the Harvard Alumni of San Francisco, won his second scholarship for another term as a special student at Harvard. George Travis, also representing our Club at Harvard, received a similar scholarship in the past.

An interesting collection of pencil and water colored sketchings of old Mexico by H. A. Schary, a graduate of the University of California, was appreciated by all those who visited the exhibit at our quarters last month.

The regular monthly meeting will be held the first Wednesday of the month. Representatives of companies manufacturing or producing building materials, who can arrange to give lectures on their products, will please communicate with the Secretary of the Club.

J. H. DEVITT,

*Publicity Manager, S. F. A. C.*

\* \* \*

## IMPROVEMENTS IN LOS ANGELES CODE

The Chamber of Commerce acting on the suggestion of its Construction Industries Committee, of which William A. Simpson is chairman, has approved and forwarded to the Board of Building and Safety Commissioners of Los Angeles two additional recommendations relative to changes in the City Building Code.

The sections suggested by the Chamber consist of the following:

That the reinforcing steel in tied columns be two per cent minimum and four per cent maximum, and that the reinforcing steel in spirally reinforced columns be two per cent minimum and six per cent maximum, and that the maximum spacing of steel in spirally reinforced columns be six inches.

That the compression on the concrete in a spirally reinforced column be 700 pounds for one-half per cent and 850 pounds for one per cent of spiral reinforcement.

The present provision regarding reinforcement of spiral columns permits eight-inch spacing of steel instead of six-inch and allows one per cent minimum of reinforcing steel. Consequently the effect of the present provision is a material strengthening of columns and thus considerable addition to the stability of buildings.

The provision respecting the allowable compression on concrete follows closely recommendations of other technical societies.

The sub-committee of the Construction Industries Committee, which framed the present proposal, consists of C. C. Thomas, chairman, F. J. Twaits, Paul E. Jeffers, Edw. W. Cunningham, J. J. Backus with Seward C. Simons of the Chamber of Commerce as secretary. In addition the Committee called into consultation Messrs. C. E. Noerenberg, architect, Chairman of the Building and Safety Commission of Los Angeles; Blaine Noice, William Mellema and Loyall F. Watson, Structural Engineer.

\* \* \*

## COLORED INTERIOR PLASTER

To meet the demand of the plastering trade, architects and builders for an inexpensive colored interior plaster which can be applied with the ordinary tools of the plasterer with a minimum of necessary precautions, the United States Gypsum Company has developed a colored sand-float finish plaster, called Plastint. It is a plaster tinted with mineral pigments which assure uniform and permanent color-tone. It requires the addition of water only on the job. It is washable with soap and water without the application of a surface-coat of size. It is made in nine colors—cream, gold, pearl, buff, gray, tan, blue, green, rose—and white.



ANOTHER REASON WHY BUTTONLATH CAN GUARANTEE A GOOD JOB



## It Seldom Rains Horizontally in California . . . but it could without damage to Buttonlath Walls

**D**RIVING rains, such as recently experienced in California, place a severe test on stuccoed and plastered walls. Unless there is a practical, waterproof backing between the exterior stucco and the interior plaster, the latter is almost certain to suffer.

In determining the waterproof quality of exterior **BUTTONLATH**, which is used as a base for stucco in thousands of California homes, (taking the place of both wood sheathing and building paper) a sheet of **BUTTONLATH** taken from stock was subjected to a constant "head-on" stream of water, greater in both volume and velocity than any driving rain California ever has known. At the end of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours the under surface of **BUTTONLATH** remained perfectly dry.

### You May Discount Demonstrations Conducted for a Purpose

Nor do we place great reliance on tests made under abnormal conditions. But we do have confidence in the record of millions of feet of Exterior **BUTTONLATH**, used as a stucco base under the most trying conditions that California can develop. And it is because of this record that we unconditionally guarantee a good job of stucco or plastering, where **BUTTONLATH** is used according to specifications.—*The BUTTONLATH Manufacturing Co., Corner Vernon and Boyle Avenues, Los Angeles.*

**An Unconditional Guarantee, Supported by an Experienced Free Inspection Service, Offers you Cooperation you Should Know About**

### SIERRA Hollow Gypsum TILE

For non-bearing partitions and stairway enclosures in fireproof construction. Fireproof; non-conductor of heat and sound; easy to cut; light in weight, reducing dead load; economical in price and handling cost; has high salvage value. Let us send you details.

SHEATHING ----- \$  
FIRE PROOFING ----- \$  
INSULATION ----- \$  
MOISTURE PROOFING ----- \$  
VERMIN PROOFING ----- \$  
SOUND DEADENING ----- \$  
REINFORCING ----- \$  
PLASTER BASE ----- \$

all this at  
one cost in  
**Buttonlath**  
GUARANTEED  
WALLS

# PERSONAL GLIMPSES

IN few professions is the individual so camera-shy as is the architect. Rarely does he receive the recognition that is his due. Never does he seek it. As a result, most of us see only a name or a completed creation of his and glimpse little or nothing of the personality behind it. In this column each month we hope, in some small measure, to heed the cry of "Author, Author," so far as the leading architectural craftsmen of the West are concerned, as well as other outstanding figures in the building industry, by presenting photographs of them and sketches from life. Nominations for this "small niche in The Hall of Fame" are acceptable from our readers.

*[Sketches from life in this issue by Ramm]*



W. H. GEORGE

## W. H. GEORGE

San Francisco architects are well acquainted with Mr. W. H. George, one of the leading figures of the building industry in that city. Mr. George is not one of those "acquired habits," for he was born in San Francisco—in 1872, although he does not look it. As a boy of 14 he started to work for the Cowell Lime and Cement Co. and he has been with them ever since—a record of 40 years connected with the growth of their concern to great proportions, until now he has under his supervision one of the largest manufacturing, farming and cattle interests in the West.

For the past five years he has been president of the Builders' Exchange of San Francisco, standing solidly for principles which have played a large part in stabilizing the prosperity of the community; and second vice-president of the National Association of Builders' Exchanges. For several years he served as president of a San Mateo County bank, and as president of a Contra Costa County Ferry Company. He is married, with one daughter; is a member of the Olympic and Press Clubs, Elks, Masonic orders through to the Shrine, Woodmen of the World, National Union, and other fraternal orders. His hobby is horseback riding and cattle raising—but this does not include throwing the bull.



ADDISON MIZNER

## ADDISON MIZNER

Mr. Mizner was born in California some time in the 80's, being one of four brothers well known to San Francisco as "the Mizner Boys"—Edgar, Wilson, Lansing and Addison. They were almost as well known to New York, and that is where Addison eventually settled. At least he stayed long enough to remodel an old house into such delightful quarters for himself that some of his friends commandeered his unquestionably excellent taste for their own guidance, and, eventually, one of them asked him to design a home in Palm Beach. The climate suited Mr. Mizner's health and his Hispanic buildings suited the climate, so he stayed on in Florida, identifying himself with the amazing development of the "stream-heated coast-line" into a new Spanish Riviera. The Mizner hobby may be put down as "re-creating the beauty of antiquity."

\* \* \*

J. Wilmer Hershey has established his office for architectural designing at 215 Broadway Building, Pasadena, Cal., and would be glad to receive catalogues and literature.

\* \* \*

Ashley & Evers, Architects, have moved to number 423 the Underwood Building, 525 Market Street. Their telephone number remains as at present—Douglas 7962.



# New Trends in Heating!



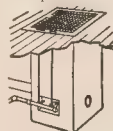
**Pacific Pressed Metal Radiators**

Patented construction permits circulation of burned gases to contact with 40% greater radiating surface than possible with any other design. Made in sizes of 4 to 16 section.

**Pacific Cast Iron Radiators**  
—have the same circulation system as the Pressed Metal Radiators and are preferred for buildings where extremely durable construction is desired to withstand rough usage.

**Pacific Gas Steam Radiators**

Each radiator is a miniature steam heating plant. Provides individual heat in rooms where wanted. Automatic control. Eliminates expense of central boiler plant installation and operation.

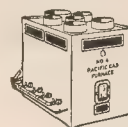


**Pacific Pipeless Floor Furnaces**

No basement required. Heat from 1 to 5 rooms. Just turn a key for instant heat. Draws air for combustion from outside.

**Pacific Recess Radiant Wall Heater**

An air duct supplies a continuous stream of fresh air to the room. Outer casing is always cool. Any finish desired.



**Pacific Warm Air Basement Furnaces**

Installed in basement or furnace pit. Deliver warm air quickly to each room. Automatic upstairs control. Require no attendance.

California architects wield an influence all over the world. Through their genius and originality a new type of architecture has been created—California architecture—and the rest of the world is taking it up.

Now, California's leadership is manifested in another detail—heating. Instead of the old-fashioned, cumbersome central plant of the East and Middle West, California architects are specifying *individual* heating units for apartment houses, office buildings, lofts and factories. Greater simplicity! Greater efficiency! More satisfaction to both owner and tenants!

Pacific Gas Radiator Company has been in the lead in designing and perfecting equipment to meet the demands of Coast architects. In the Pacific line is found every type of gas heating equipment that experience has proved practical. Pacific Heating Engineers work hand in hand with architects whenever desired. They can take a great amount of detail off the architect's hands. Their assistance in planning heating installations and estimating costs is absolutely FREE. And there is no obligation. Just phone BEacon 2190.

See Listing in Sweet's 1926 Architectural Catalog, Pages 2220-1 and 2116-7

## Pacific Gas Radiator Gas Heating Company Headquarters

1732-1740 W. Washington St., BEacon 2190; 616 W. 8th St., METropolitan 2398  
Factory and Foundry, 7541 Roseberry St., Los Angeles. Branches Throughout the West

## A DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED TO ASSIST YOU IN SOLVING YOUR HEATING, LIGHTING & POWER PROBLEMS

The efficient use of electricity for power, lighting and fuel and of gas for heating, cooking and industrial purposes has become so important and is developing so rapidly that it is hoped this non-technical discussion of the best principles of design and of practical methods of installation will be helpful. For the information contained in this series we are indebted to the research and engineering departments of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

### III.

## SPECIAL HEATING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MODERN HOME

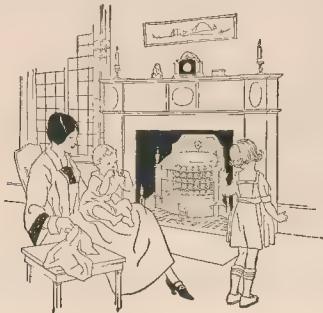


**I**N practically every home that the architect of today designs his client is desirous of having a fire-place. This is either because he wishes it for ornate purposes and to carry out a scheme of architecture, or else to have a fire-place to lend an atmosphere of cozy comfort and environment to this portion of the home where it may be built. How many fire-places, however, will you design which will become mere useless ornaments, simply because of the trouble and mess of building fires? This will not be the case if provisions are made to install a radiant type gas heater, because with such there is no more trouble to have cozy, healthful warmth in a fire-place than there is to light the burner of the ordinary gas range.

Architects are becoming more and more inclined to favor the idea of at least making provisions in each and every fire-place for the installation of radiant type gas heater, by specifying the installation of a gas piping stub or outlet. The cost of this gas outlet is negligible, and it is good foresight to specify that it be provided in every fire-place.

Radiant type gas heaters installed in fire-places are quick and ever-ready in action. They have perfect combustion, are safe, clean and give intense heat at a surprisingly small expense. These heaters are flexible in operation, and may be turned down low and will burn that way when only a moderate heat is required. Being installed in a fire-place, as the heater operates all products of combustion pass up the chimney, thus accelerating the natural ventilation of the room. It is interesting to note that doctors recommend this appliance for healthful heat, because it serves to drive out a touch of cold or a bit of dampness any morning or any night.

A variety of designs in the andiron and hearth trimmings provide harmonious equipment for rooms and fire-places of various decorative treatments, and afford a selection to suit your taste and in keeping with the architecture.



### *For Various Rooms of the Bungalow*

The problem of heating different rooms of a bungalow or small home where there may not be sufficient basement room or clearance to allow for a regular heating system is solved by the installation in many cases of individual pipeless warm-air floor furnaces. These "floor furnaces" are specified by many architects for installation to heat one large living room or dining room, or in some cases installed in a hallway to heat two average sized bedrooms.

They are inexpensive, and to properly install only require a flue connection from the heater, running through the basement to the chimney. The register can be sunk counter-flush with the floor, and located in an out-of-the-way place or corner of the room so as not to be at all objectionable or interfere with the placing of furniture. Gas is burned as the fuel and its use makes these heaters absolutely safe. The flexibility of operating a warm-air floor furnace using gas fuel makes it possible when one gets up in the morning or comes in at any time during the day to have quick heat by simply touching a handy valve. Architects are finding it satisfactory to specify and recommend this type of small, pipeless, warm-air floor furnace, because it is a means of maintaining healthful heat, with a constant circulation of pure warm air to every corner of the room. Because of its convenience in lighting and adjustment to give any desired room temperature, the cost of operation is nominal.

Thus the problem of how to heat various rooms is solved for the architect, even though there may be but very little basement clearance. The floor furnace described that has proved so popular in solving this problem, may be installed where the basement clearance is not more than 30 inches. In many cases, especially bungalows, architects specify a combination of two or three such pipeless warm-air furnaces to solve the heating problem. As mentioned above, the flue connections from the heaters are run through the basement to a chimney outlet which should be provided for this purpose.



# ARCHITECTS

*Write for these Specifications*

EL REY ASPHALT ROOFING

*10-Year Guarantee*

EL REY ASPHALT ROOFING

*20-Year Guarantee*

IT is important to remember that behind these guarantees stands the Los Angeles Paper Manufacturing Co., one of the oldest and largest producers of roofing materials in the West. For over a quarter of a century this company has been noted for the unequalled quality of its felt—a product whose superiority is a prime factor in the superiority of the finished —

## EL REY Asphalt ROOFING

We are emphasizing our service to Architects. You are cordially invited to avail yourself of it.



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A BEAUTIFUL ROOF FOREVER



*The*  
NEW HOME  
of the  
EVENING  
HERALD  
Los Angeles

Morgan,  
Wells & Clements,  
Architects

YIELDING its full beauty to the skill of the Architect, this tile roof adds much to the stately splendor of the new Herald building ... These clay tile were burned in the kilns of the Los Angeles Pressed Brick Company, from whence have come materials for many of California's fine buildings during the last 39 years.

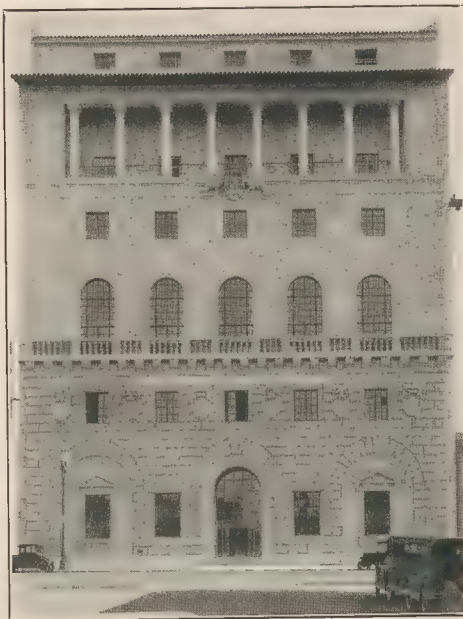
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LOS ANGELES

FACE BRICK · ROOF TILE · TERRA COTTA · FLOOR TILE · REFRACTORIES · HOLLOW TILE

254





*Patriotic Hall, Los Angeles, Calif.*

*Architects:*

*Allied Architects, Los Angeles, Calif.*

*General Contractor:*

*G. T. McGrew, Los Angeles, Calif.*

*Paint Contractor:*

*Horace H. Mann, Los Angeles, Calif.*

*Perma-Light Washable Wall Finishes  
used throughout.*

## Triple Adaptability

The ever-widening use of Perma-Light Washable Wall Finishes is explained by their three-fold adaptability to architectural requirements.

# Perma-Light

*2 or 3 coat, Washable*

## Wall Finishes

combine comprehensive aesthetic possibilities, with ultimate economy (despite higher initial cost), and with these structural advantages:

*Require no sizing.*

*Prevent Lime Burns.*

*Prevent air checking, etc.*

*Provide perfect seal, eliminating suction.*

*Combine Durability with—*

*Easy Washability.*

Specifications, Further Data, and Conscientious Cooperation at your Disposal.

Our Firm name and Label are a Certificate of Authenticity for all statements and claims made on behalf of Perma-Light or any other product sponsored by this firm.

*Made exclusively by*

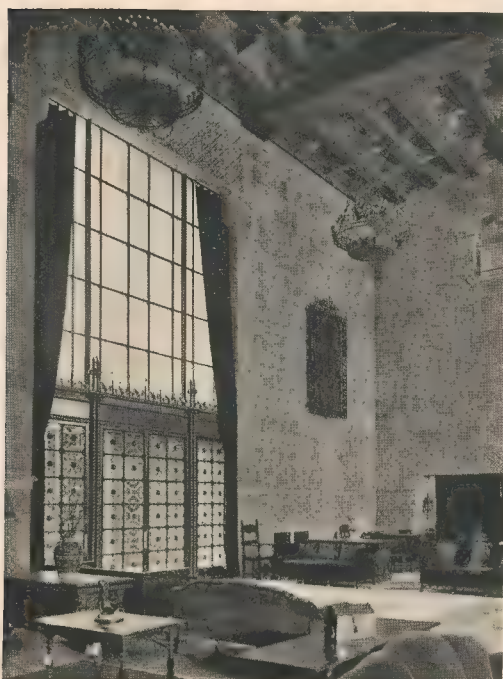
## HILL, HUBBELL & COMPANY

*Paint Specialists*

San Francisco • Los Angeles • Oakland • Portland • Seattle • New York • Tulsa

*"Dependable as a Lighthouse"*





Lobby, Barker Bros. Bldg., Los Angeles. Curlett & Beelman, Architects

#### EXHIBIT OF DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

From April 26 to May 8, taking in "Better Homes Week," an exhibition of photographs of domestic architecture was held by the "Architects' Bureau" of Barker Brothers' new establishment in Los Angeles. It was given under the auspices of the Southern California Chapter, A. I. A., and the photographs were carefully selected from the material submitted. Approximately 200,000 people viewed the exhibit.

The Architects' Bureau has been created to assist the patrons of a great furniture store, both by showing them examples of various architects' work and in co-operating with architect and client. It is a department of personal service, which centralizes calls, appointments, prevents unnecessary solicitation, and acts as an information center for all matters connected with the furnishing and decoration of new homes. Mr. Guy H. Humphreys is manager of the bureau.

#### CORRECTION

Due to a typographical error in our May issue, the advertisement of the Buttonlath Manufacturing Company read: "And if 8-inch walls and ceilings are Buttonlathed," etc. This should have been:

"And if walls and ceilings are **BUTTONLATHED**, three 200-pound men may walk on them, or stand in one spot, without seriously damaging the plaster, for in a recent test made by the Raymond G. Osborne Laboratories, an 8-inch unsupported surface plastered over **BUTTONLATH** showed a deflection of only  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch under a weight of 620 pounds . . . metal lath, which costs much more, bore a weight of only 280 pounds."

\* \* \*

A noticeable increase in the use of gas steam radiators for heating apartment houses is reported by A. J. Hartfield of the Pacific Gas Radiator Company, whose statistical department keeps an accurate check on all gas heating installations in Los Angeles.



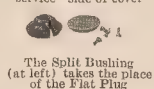
Above shows "out of service" condition



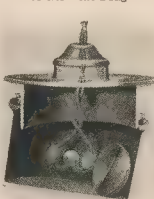
The cover is easily removed



The Flat Plug is removed from cover and the cover is reversed. Note the high rim protection on "in service" side of cover



The Split Bushing (at left) takes the place of the Flat Plug



Here is shown the "In Service" condition. The Flat Plug is placed in the Floor Box for safe keeping

## SPECIFY **FA** Floor Boxes (with reversible covers)

Frankly, you will not find the same collection of good features elsewhere. **FA** Floor Boxes are *adjustable*. They can be installed at any angle, yet the top can be adjusted to the proper floor level. **FA** Floor Boxes are *substantial*. They cost less than two-cover type. They become a permanent floor connection for lights, bells, buzzers, telephone, etc. A quick change from "out of service" to "in service," or vice versa, can be made at any time. **FA** Floor Boxes are *water-tight*. A heavy, round, long-life gasket gives full protection from all moisture. The inside is always dry. The wiring can never be damaged . . . You should be interested to learn more—

Send for the **FA** Catalog. It gives full details and is entirely free. Complete estimates furnished gratis; ask for them

# Frank Adam

## ELECTRIC COMPANY

ST. LOUIS  
District Offices

Atlanta, Ga.	Dallas, Texas	Minneapolis, Minn.	Portland, Ore.
Baltimore, Md.	Denver, Colo.	New Orleans, La.	Seattle, Wash.
Boston, Mass.	Detroit, Mich.	New York City, N. Y.	San Francisco, Calif.
Chicago, Ill.	Kansas City, Mo.	Philadelphia, Pa.	St. Louis, Mo.
Cincinnati, Ohio	Los Angeles, Calif.	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Winnipeg, Canada
	London, Ont., Canada		





## The Unexpected Writing on the Wall!



NO HAND-WRITING EXPERT is needed here . . . too clearly the wavy, uneven angles, the thin spots, where the lath shows through, the wash-board effects, and other plastering blemishes reads: "SKIMPED!"

The specifications called for a good job of plastering . . . but there is one requirement that *cannot* be written into the specifications. This is that the owner and general contractor be ready to pay a price that will cover good plastering.

Much as the public has learned about the importance of good plastering, there are still builders who believe they can economize and still avoid paying the penalty of cheapness. Thoughtful architects are protecting themselves and doing their clients a genuine service by discouraging this fallacy wherever they find it.

## Blue Diamond Company

*Producers and Manufacturers of Quality  
Fireproof Building Materials*

Los Angeles



### Paving the Way for Better Building

These advertisements and other like them, appearing regularly in leading newspapers and home builders' magazines, are working for the cause of better building . . . by making it plain that "You get what you pay for in Plastering." As a result of this campaign builders are avoiding the pitfalls of the too-low plastering bid, and skimpy jobs are becoming rarer. Neither Blue Diamond Company nor Blue Diamond plaster is mentioned in this advertising.



#### INTRODUCING "CAL" PINE.

An interesting booklet has just been published by the California White and Sugar Pine Manufacturers Association, San Francisco, which gives a deal of useful information as to uses, sizes and forms of pine, through the medium of a unique personality, "Cal" Pine, head of mill inspectors, "Guardian of the Grades." The book will be welcomed in architects' and builders' offices, both for the matter and the form, and may be had on application without cost.

\* \* \*

#### FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

[Concluded from page 17]

Mr. Frank C. Baldwin of Washington, D. C., secretary; Mr. Edwin Bergstrom of Los Angeles, treasurer.

At luncheon on Friday, Harvey W. Corbett gave a talk, illustrated with colored lantern slides of his drawings of the restoration of King Solomon's Temple. The restoration proved to be interesting, showing the grand scale of and the magnificence achieved in the architecture of the Assyrian, Babylonian and others selected by Mr. Corbett as being styles contemporaneous with King Solomon. His description of the development and methods of research were amusing as well as instructive. It is to be hoped that this wonderful dream may some day be converted into an exposition, as has been suggested, and that we shall have the privilege of seeing it in three dimensions as well as in two.

All the delegates at the Convention were well satisfied that they had made the effort to attend and felt fully repaid by the inspiration received from contact with their fellow architects and a knowledge of the tremendous work for the profession and the nation which is being accomplished by The American Institute of Architects.

ALBERT J. EVERS,

*Delegate, San Francisco Chapter A.I.A.*

\* \* \*

#### NEW WINDOW BOOK

"The New Window Vogue for the Home Beautiful" is the title of a very attractive new booklet just published by the Detroit Steel Products Company, Detroit, manufacturers of Fenestra windows. The booklet is profusely illustrated, and contains many useful suggestions for interior decoration. It is sent free on request.

\* \* \*

#### POMONA ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

First announcement of the personnel of the Architectural Commission of Claremont Colleges was made today, following confirmation of appointments at the meeting of Claremont Colleges Board of Fellows held this week. The new commission is one of the first college commissions of its kind in the West, and is made up of nationally known architects and laymen. The commission is composed of five men, including George Spearl, Carleton M. Winslow and David C. Allison.

The two lay members of the commission are Edward C. Harwood of Uplands and Bernard Hoffman of Santa Barbara.

## RAYMOND GRANITE



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Redwood City Plant, Pacific Portland Cement Company, Consolidated  
America's Finest Cement Plant.

**NEW!**

## Golden Gate Plastic Waterproof Cement

**D**ENSE CONCRETE—permanently water resistant, easy working, high strength concrete which flows quickly and smoothly around a multitude of reinforced bars and into difficult corners without excessive tamping—is now made possible economically. Most will agree that sufficiently watertight concrete using ordinary Portland cement is possible, but requires workmanship and methods too exacting for practical application in construction. Admixtures added to concrete at the mixer generally give indifferent results—the precision necessary in mixing and placing falls outside the possibilities of field control. Exterior coatings of waterproof materials or the use of membrane systems are usually either ineffective or uneconomical. So, finally, the problem has been handed to the cement manufacturer himself for solution. “Golden Gate” engineers and chemists early decided that cement which contains oils, fats, or soaps, would not do. The apparent waterproofness was not sufficiently permanent and strength was reduced. Not until a cement, which had inherent water resisting qualities, which were permanent and at the same time retained the high strength and uniformity for which Golden Gate cements have always been noted, could be produced, would they attempt to offer to the builder an answer to his problem. Nor were water resistance and strength alone sufficient. Modern methods of mixing and placing concrete with definite control of the cement-water ratio, require that cement have plasticity and workability not attainable in ordinary Portland cement.

In announcing the perfection of Golden Gate Plastic Waterproof Cement, our engineers and chemists have painstakingly adhered to the high quality standards of Golden Gate Portland Cement. These standards have been rigidly maintained for over twenty years. Plasticity and water tightness have been *built in* at the factory under definite exacting laboratory control. Golden Gate waterproof plastic cement makes stucco and concrete that is permanently water resistant and of unusual plasticity and workability. Uniform density and strength are thus built in throughout the mass. Patching, checkcracks, and shrinkage are practically eliminated. Construction is speeded up. Concrete pours easier and requires less tamping. Stucco spreads faster and more smoothly.

*Golden Gate Plastic Waterproof Cement can be obtained from your dealer or in straight or mixed carloads with Golden Gate Portland Cement direct from the factory.  
Test data and Bulletin on request.*

## Pacific Portland Cement Company, Consolidated

Los Angeles, Cal. • San Francisco, Cal. • Portland, Oregon

*Manufacturers*

*Empire Plaster • Empire Gypsum Tile • Empire Insulex • Golden Gate Portland Cement  
Golden Gate Plastic Waterproof Cement*

A. I. A. MONTHLY BULLETIN

[Concluded from page 39]

Chapter, A. I. A., extend to his widow and family their sincere sympathy.

Committee:

E. W. CANNON,  
HARRIS ALLEN.

The proposed ordinance for the limitation of heights of buildings in San Francisco was presented by Mr. Coxhead, chairman of the Committee on City Planning, and discussed at length by all present. The matter was referred back to the Committee for the formulation of a communication to the City Planning Commission, expressing the sentiments of the Chapter. No formal resolutions on the subject were passed.

The meeting adjourned about 9:40 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT J. EVERS, Secretary.

\* \* \*

REDUCING STEEL COST

How standardization and the introduction of better business methods are lowering the cost of steel frame building construction is being explained to structural steel fabricators, engineers, architects, contractors, bankers and municipal officials, at a series of meetings which, following the first one in Philadelphia, Pa., on March 5, will be held in sixteen of the largest cities in the United States. The meetings are being conducted under the auspices of the American Institute of Steel Construction, the association of the structural steel fabricators of the United States and Canada.

\* \* \*

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS

OF AUGUST 24, 1912

OF PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT AND BUILDING REVIEW, published monthly at San Francisco, California, for April 1, 1926.  
State of California } ss.  
County of San Francisco }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Charles W. Meighan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the PACIFIC COAST ARCHITECT and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Name of	Post Office Address
Publisher, Western States Publishing Corporation,	703 Market Street, San Francisco
Editor, Harris Allen	703 Market Street, San Francisco
Managing Editor, None	
Business Manager, Chas. W. Meighan	703 Market Street, San Francisco

2. That the owner is: (If the publication is owned by an individual his name and address, or if owned by more than one individual the name and address of each, should be given below; if the publication is owned by a corporation the name of the corporation and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of the total amount of stock should be given.)

Western States Publishing Corporation, 703 Market Street, San Francisco; A. Hoffman, 345 Battery Street, San Francisco; Harris Allen, 703 Market Street, San Francisco; H. Collier, 345 Battery Street, San Francisco; N. Brydone-Jack, 117 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is: ..... (This information is required from daily publications only.)

CHARLES W. MEIGHAN, Business Manager.

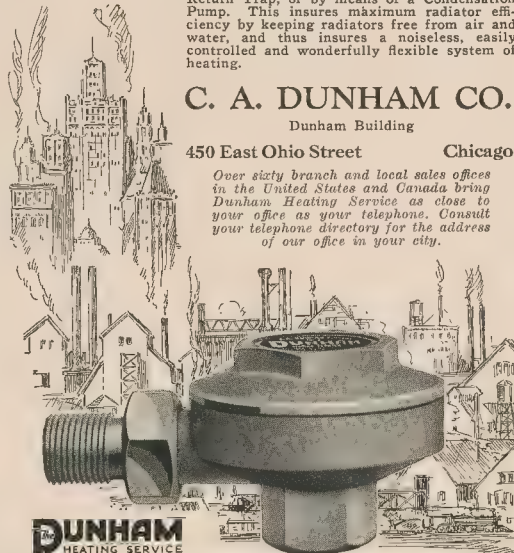
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of March, 1926.  
(SEAL) E. J. CASEY.

(My Commission expires August 18, 1927.)

Since the issuance of the above statement Mr. James G. Ralston has superseded Chas. W. Meighan as Business Manager.

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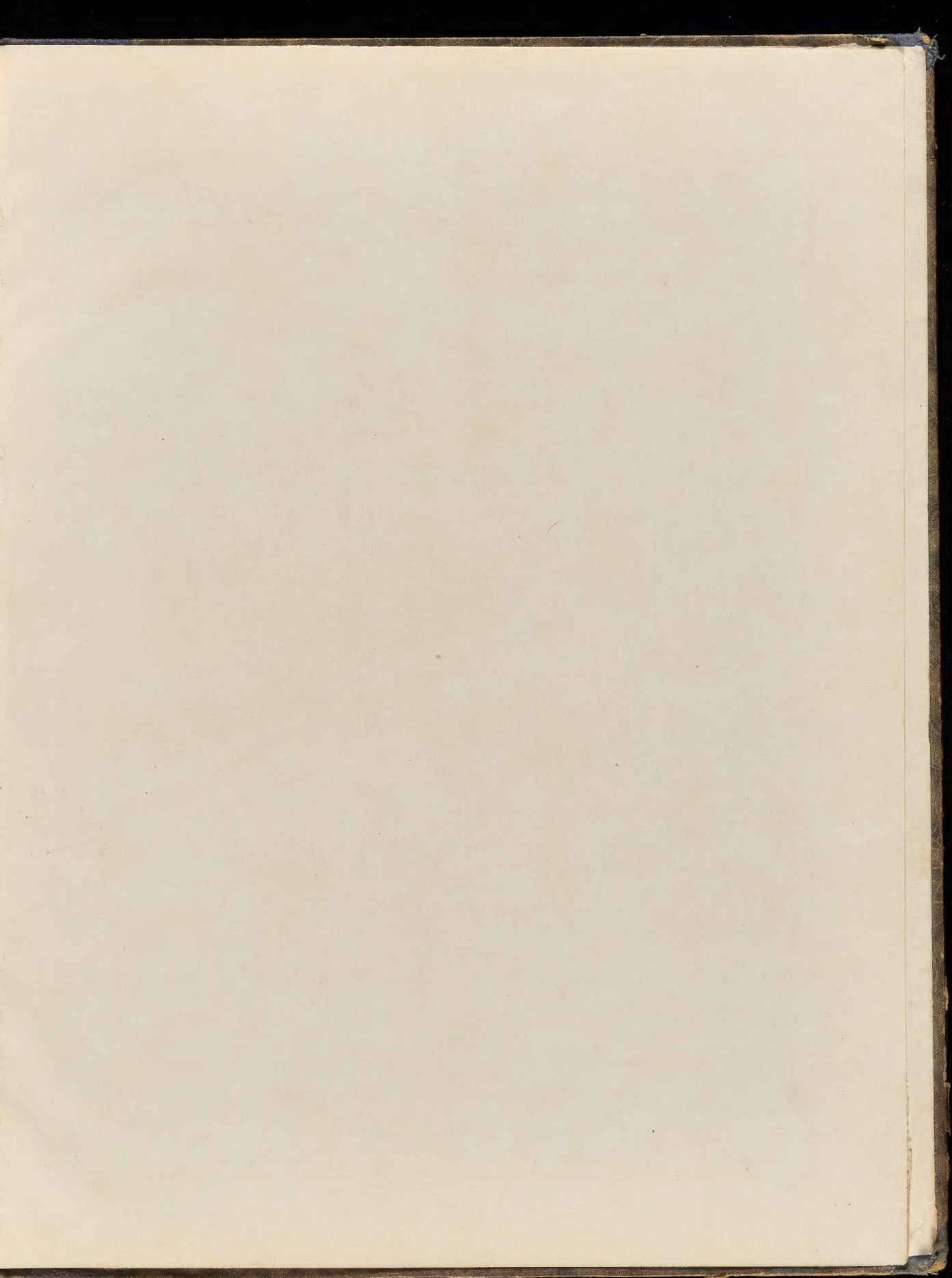
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